

TODAY'S LESSONS: THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Collect: Page 212 BCP

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

Amen.

Isaiah 7:10-16

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted."

Psalms 80:1-7, 16-18

- 1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; * shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
- 2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, * stir up your strength and come to help us.
- 3 Restore us, O God of hosts; * show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 4 O Lord God of hosts, * how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?
- 5 You have fed them with the bread of tears; * you have given them bowls of tears to drink.

- 6 You have made us the derision of our neighbors, * and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
- 7 Restore us, O God of hosts; * show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 16 Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, * the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.
- 17 And so will we never turn away from you; * give us life, that we may call upon your Name.
- 18 Restore us, O Lord God of hosts; * show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

Romans 1:1-7

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.



The Altar Flowers are given
to the glory of God
in honor of the Altar Guild.



Matthew 1:18-25

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us." When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

Office Closed

The church office will close early on December 23rd and will reopen on January 2nd.

The Calendar

Sunday, December 22

- 8am Holy Eucharist, Chapel
9am Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room
10am Holy Eucharist, Church
10:05am Children's Worship, Prayer Room
11:15am Coffee Hour, Church
11:15am Greening of the Church
11:20am Choir Rehearsal, Choir Room
11:30am Pageant Rehearsal
12:30pm Mother of the Savior (MotS)
Eucharist, Church
1:30pm Mother of the Savior (Mots)
Coffee Hour, Lounge
7pm Lessons & Carols, Church

Monday, December 23

Office Closes at Noon

Tuesday, December 24

- Office Closed
5pm Christmas Eve Family Service
7pm Christmas Eve Bi-lingual Service
8:15pm Christmas Eve Potluck
10pm Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Wednesday, December 25

- Office Closed
10am Christmas Day Service

Thursday, December 26

Office Closed

Friday, December 27

Office Closed

Saturday, December 28

Sunday, December 29

- 8am Holy Eucharist, Chapel
10am Holy Eucharist, Church
11:15am Coffee Hour, Church
12:30pm MotS Eucharist, Church/Chapel
1:30pm MotS Coffee Hour, Lounge

Spiritual Offerings

Centering Prayer, Room 19
Tuesday 6:15pm

Yoga, Room 213
Tuesday 7:15pm

AA meets

Monday, 8pm, Lounge
Wednesday, 8pm, Room 213
Thursday, 11:30am, Room 213
Thursday, 6:30pm, Resource Room
Saturday, Noon, Room 213

Boy Scouts, Fellowship Hall
Tuesday nights, 7pm

Bridge, Lounge
Wednesday 1pm

Listening Group, Lounge
1st & 3rd Monday 7pm

Martial Arts, Fellowship Hall
Sunday 2pm
Wednesday 7pm

Sonneman Voice & Piano, Choir Room
Tuesday and Thursday 3pm-9pm
Saturday 10am-4pm

Stretching, Fellowship Hall
2nd & 4th Saturday 10:30am



Christ Episcopal Church in Dearborn

Feeding People in Mind, Body, and Spirit for 150 years
(313) 565-8450 office@christchurchdearborn.org

THE COMMUNICATOR: PLEASE TAKE THIS HOME WITH YOU

For the churches of Diocese of the Michigan (Church at Crossroads [Detroit]); for the churches of our companion Diocese of the Dominican Republic (Christ the King [Puerto Plata]); for Bishop Gibbs as he prepares to retire in December; for Bonnie A. Perry, Bishop-elect of the Episcopal Diocese of Michigan.

The Sick and Suffering: For Kaitlyn.

Armed Forces: For all those serving in harm's way.

Concerns in the World: For those who are suffering from natural disasters and extreme weather conditions.

Departed:

To place someone on the prayer list or request a pastoral visit please contact the church office.

Special Events and Announcements:

Sign Up Has Begun

Baptized For Life Dinners

A series of eight dinners focusing on deepening intercultural relationships and growing our faith as Christians will begin in January 2020. We will host two meals a month that will use the conversation guide, "Eating Together Faithfully". The schedule for this first series of dinners is January 16 & 30, February 6 & 20, March 5 & 19, and April 2 & 23 from 6-9pm. It is important to commit to all 8 dinners in the series and do your best to be there. Contact Erin in the church office if you would like to attend this first series. If you can't make this series, second series of 8 dinners will be offered in the summer.

Greening of the Church

This year's Greening of the Church is today following the 10am service. Coffee hour will be in the church while we decorate.

Intentional About Money

The Social Justice implementation team of the Renaissance task force is offering a financial literacy course at Christ Church starting on Wednesday evening, January 15th, running every other week for 9 sessions. The course, Intentional About Money, is based on setting up a budget and deciding where every dollar should go and sticking with that to pay off debts and grow wealth. A brochure with the registration form is available in the church office and from Diana Brehob; the brochure will also be included in the next Courier. Contact the Office 313 565-8450 or Diana Brehob for more information.

A Concert of Lessons & Carols, December 22nd, 7 p.m.

Renaissance Voices, a 20-women choir out of Henry Ford College, will present a Lessons & Carols performance in the style of King's College, Cambridge.

Holy Currencies Book Study

The Holy Currencies book study will continue in January, starting January 12 with chapters 3 and 4.

Christmas Eve Dinner

There will be a Christmas Eve Potluck Dinner with both Christ Church and Mother of the Savior at about 8:15pm. Join us for either the bi-lingual service before at 7pm or the Candlelight service after at 10pm.

Vestments for the Bishop-elect

Dear Members of the Diocesan Family,

In this blessed season of Advent, preparations are also being made to consecrate our Bishop-elect, Bonnie A. Perry as the 11th Bishop of Michigan.

The members of the Transitions Committee believe that it would be a lovely gesture for the people and congregations of our diocese to honor our Bishop-elect by contributing funds so that she can be gifted with sets of vestments in red and in a purple & blue shade. Each set will include a cope, mitre, chasuble and stole.

To add your contribution towards this gift from the people and congregations of the Diocese, please follow this link: edomi.org/vestments. You will be directed to donate via credit card through Paypal; or, you may send a check payable to "The Episcopal Diocese of Michigan" to:

The Episcopal Diocese of Michigan
c/o Consecration Vestments
4800 Woodward
Detroit, MI 48201

Any funds collected exceeding the cost of the red and purple sets of vestments will be added to the pool of contributions from family and friends of the Bishop-elect to be used for any other vestments or Episcopal appointments that she may need.

We look forward to February 8, 2020 when we gather as a community to consecrate the 11th Bishop of Michigan! Bishop-Elect Bonnie is grateful for your continued prayers and support. Detailed information on the events for the weekend will be sent in the upcoming days.

Questions regarding donations can be addressed to The Rev. Anthony Estes at anthonyestes@me.com (member of the Transitions Committee) or Canon Jo Ann Hardy (Diocesan Administrator) at 313.833.4422 or jhardy@edomi.org.

Christmas Season Services

December 22: Advent 4 and the "Greening of the Church" follows the 10am service with Coffee Hour in the church.

December 22: Lessons and Carols with Renaissance Voices, 7pm. This is a performance of Lessons and Carols presented by Renaissance Voices, an all female chorus led by Kevin Dewey. Tickets are \$15 and available in the office.

December 24

Three services of the Incarnation, the Christ-mas

Christmas Eve Pageant at 5:00pm, the children offer a Christmas play, Holy Eucharist follows

Bi-lingual service at 7pm followed by a festive Christmas Eve potluck dinner, for both Mother of the Savior and Christ Church and their family and friends. Please bring a simple dish to share. Stay after the 7pm service or come early for the 10pm service and share a meal.

AND Candlelit Christmas Eve service at 10pm

December 25: Christmas morning 10am

Sunday, December 29

8am in the Chapel - Holy Eucharist

10am in the Church - Holy Eucharist with Carols

Worship Leaders

Today

Cross	Oliver Angel
Lector	Carolyn Blackmore
LEM	Matt Sallman
Vestry	Holly Schanz
Prayer Room	Pageant Rehearsal
Ushers	Team 3

Christmas Eve 10pm Service

Torch Bearer	Monica McLeod
Lector	Isabelle Behm
LEM	Diana Brehob
Vestry	Monica McLeod
Vestry	James Thornton
Ushers	Ushers as available

Next Week—December 28

Lector	Diana Brehob
LEM	Diana Brehob
Vestry	Lynn Becker
Ushers	Ushers as available
LEV	D. Brehob/B. Caldwell

Christmas Eve 5pm Service

Vestry	Barbara Hall
Ushers	Ushers as available

Christmas Day 10am

Lector	Barbara Hall
LEM	Barbara Hall
Ushers	Ushers as available

