



St. John's

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

The Fourth Sunday of Advent, Year B

December 21, 2008

BCP-Book of Common Prayer

WLP Hymnal-Wonder, Love and Praise

The Holy Eucharist: Rite Two

11:15 a.m.

The Reverend Mary Moore Roberson, Celebrant

The Word of God

At the Procession

Hymnal #56 "O come, O come, Emmanuel"

Veni, veni, Emmanuel

Entrance Rite

BCP 355

Song of Praise

Hymnal #S102 "Holy God" *Trisagion*

Archangelsky

Holy God, Holy and Mighty, Holy Immortal One, have mercy upon us. (*Sing 3 times*)

The Collect of the Day

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.

The First Lesson

2 Samuel 7:1-11, 16

Now when the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you."

But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?" Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have

been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. Your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever before me; your throne shall be established forever.

The Gradual

Canticle 3—The Song of Mary *Magnificat* (Luke 1:46-55)

Chant here that I will give you for this Sunday only

1. My soul doth / magni•fy the / Lord, *
and my spirit hath re/joyced ▪ in / God ▪ my / Savior.
2. For / he hath ▪ re/garded *
the / lowli•ness / of ▪ his / handmaiden.
3. For be/hold ▪ from / henceforth *
all gener•ations ▪ shall / call ▪ me / blessed.
4. For he that is mighty hath / magni•fied / me, *
and / ho•ly / is ▪ his / Name.
- † 5. And his mercy is on / them ▪ that / fear him *
throughout / all / gener•ations.
6. He hath showed / strength with ▪ his / arm; *
he hath scattered the proud in the imagi•na•tion / of ▪ their / hearts.
7. He hath put down the / mighty ▪ from their / seat, *
and hath ex/alted ▪ the / humble ▪ and / meek.
8. He hath filled the / hungry ▪ with / good things, *
and the rich he hath / sent / empty ▪ a/way.
9. He remembering his mercy hath holpen his / ser•vant / Israel, *
as he promised to our forefathers, / Abraham ▪ and his / seed ▪ for / ever.

† *Second half of chant*

The Epistle

Romans 16:25-27

Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith-- to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

At the Sequence

Hymnal #66 “Come, thou long-expected Jesus”

Stuttgart

The Gospel

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.

The Sermon The Reverend J. Fletcher Montgomery

The Nicene Creed

BCP 358

The Prayers of the People, Form II

BCP 385

Confession of Sin and Absolution

BCP 360

The Peace

The Holy Communion

At the Offertory "Gabriel's Message"

Chancel Choir

Basque Carol

Hymn at the Presentation

Hymnal #380, v. 3 "Praise God, from whom all blessings flow"

Old 100th

The Great Thanksgiving, Eucharistic Prayer A

Hymnal #S114 "Holy, holy, holy Lord" *Sanctus*

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:

Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.

Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

BCP 361

Healey Willan

The Breaking of the Bread

Hymnal #S158 "O Lamb of God"

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us. (Repeat)

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
grant us thy peace.

BCP 364

Healey Willan

Hymns at the Communion

Hymnal #277 “Sing of Mary, pure and lowly”
Hymnal #268 “Ye who claim the faith of Jesus”
WLP#723 “Isaiah the prophet has written of old”

Tune: Suo Gân
Julion
Samanthra

People’s response to the sending out of the Eucharistic Visitors:

May you carry the prayers of all of us as you take this Sacrament of Christ’s presence.

Postcommunion Prayer and Blessing

BCP 366

Hymn at the Procession

Hymnal #74 “Blessed be the King whose coming”

Valet will ich dir geben

Dismissal

The Marian Hymns of Advent:

Today’s Advent hymns speak of the incarnation of our Lord, born miraculously to the Virgin Mary:

- The Chancel Choir will sing *Gabriel’s Story*, a Basque Christmas folk carol about the Annunciation to the Virgin Mary. It quotes the biblical account of that event in today’s Gospel and Mary’s Magnificat (Canticle 3). It was paraphrased into English by Sabine Baring-Gould, whose use of the lilting phrase *Most highly favored lady* made it the favorite carol of Richard Harries, Bishop of Oxford. It remains also a favorite of choirboys, chortling as they irreverently sing “Most highly flavored gravy” at the refrain.
- *Sing of Mary, pure and lowly*: This text was written in 1938 by Fr. Roland Ford Palmer who had a long association with St. Matthias Anglican Church, a small Anglo-Catholic church located in Toronto, Canada. Several tunes are used to sing this hymn that speaks of the voices of all saints, the living and the dead, joining with Mary in praise to the Trinity. The beautiful, haunting tune that we use today is an old Welsh lullaby.
- *Ye who claim the faith of Jesus*: Text (vv 1-3) by Stuckey Coles (1845-1929,) the son of a village priest who himself spent his life in ministry as an Anglo-Catholic priest, serving in country churches and as librarian at Oxford. Known equally for his love for Christ and his love for his myriad friends, it is written of him “If ever, with reverence, it might be said of any man, ‘For their sakes I sanctify myself,’ it could surely be said of him.” David Hurd, currently professor at The General Theological Seminary (ECUSA) in New York City and prolific composer of Christian hymns and liturgical music, wrote the lovely tune for this hymn and named it *Julion* in honor of his friend and musical colleague James Julion Mann, who especially liked the tune.