



# Sherwood Episcopal Church

Five Sherwood Road  
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[sherwoodcockeysville.org](http://sherwoodcockeysville.org)

**The Fourth Sunday of Advent**  
**December 19, 2021**

**10 am**  
**Holy Eucharist, Rite II**

*Watch live on our Facebook page and our website at 10 am, and on our YouTube channel after the service.*



## THE WORD OF GOD

Prelude

Advent Organ Chorales

Welcome and Announcements

The Reverend Nancy H. Hennessey, Rector

## THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

*Reader:* Today we light all the candles of the Advent wreath. Each candle has a meaning. The first candle is HOPE, the second candle is PEACE, the third candle is JOY, and the fourth candle is LOVE. The center candle is the Christ candle.

*The candle is lit.*

For to us a child is born, to us a son is given, and the government will be on his shoulders. And he will be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

*Isaiah 9:6*

Let us pray.

O God of hope, peace, joy, and love. As Mary and Joseph welcomed you into the world, now help us welcome you into our lives. Give us courage to hope; strength to seek peace. Fill our spirits with joy; and our hearts with love. Through Jesus Christ, the Lord of all. **Amen.**

*Compiled and written by the Rev. Matthew Kozlowski*

HYMN – 56 (vs. 1-5)

*O come, O come, Emmanuel*

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear.

*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel!*

2 O come, thou Wisdom from on high,  
who orderest all things mightily;  
to us the path of knowledge show,  
and teach us in her ways to go.

*Refrain*

3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might,  
who to thy tribes on Sinai's height  
in ancient times didst give the law,  
in cloud, and majesty, and awe.

*Refrain*

4 O come, thou Branch of Jesse's tree,  
free them from Satan's tyranny

that trust thy mighty power to save,  
and give them victory o'er the grave.

*Refrain*

O come, thou Key of David, come,  
and open wide our heavenly home;  
make safe the way that leads on high,  
and close the path to misery.

*Refrain*

## THE OPENING SENTENCES

BCP pg. 355

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

**And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.**

## THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## KYRIE

*Arranged by Edmund Brownless*

*p* Lord, have mer-cy u-pon us. Christ, have mer-cy u-pon us.

Lord, have mer-cy u-pon us. *f*

The musical notation consists of two staves. The first staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The melody is written in a simple, rhythmic style. The lyrics are placed below the notes. The first staff ends with a double bar line. The second staff continues the melody and lyrics, ending with a double bar line and a dynamic marking of *f* (forte).

## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray.

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.**

*Please be seated.*

## THE FIRST READING

Micah 5:2-5a

You, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace.

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## CANTICLE 15 Page 91, BCP, The Song of Mary, Magnificat

*Read responsively by whole verse*

My soul proclaims the greatness of 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.

## THE EPISTLE

Hebrews 10: 5-10

When Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God' (in the scroll of the book it is written of me)." When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

The Word of the Lord.  
**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand as you are able.*

## GOSPEL AFFIRMATION



## THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 1:39-45

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

**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 leaped 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 leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

*The people are seated at the invitation of the preacher.*

THE SERMON

Seminarian Karen Mercer  
*St. Mary's Ecumenical Institute*

THE NICENE CREED

BCP pg. 358

*Said by all, standing as you are able.*

**We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.  
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation**

he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.

On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven

and is seated at the right hand of the Father.

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.

He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

#### THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Form III, BCP p. 387

Let us pray.

Father, we pray for your holy catholic church;  
**That we all may be one.**

Grant that every member of the church may truly and humbly serve you;  
**That your Name may be glorified by all people.**

We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;  
**That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.**

We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;  
**That there may be justice and peace on the earth.**

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;  
**That our works may find favor in your sight.**

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

**That they may be delivered from their distress.**

We pray especially for those impacted by COVID-19 as well those on our parish prayer list: Virginia, Timothy, Margaret S. & family, Louis, Shannon T., Marisa, Bill P., Casey, Betsey, Kiernan & Colleen, Lou D., Wayne L., Nancy C., Sheila, Hoa, Diane B., Kaylay, Lorraine, Kathy, Butch, Paige, John M., Kyle, Irene, and the Williams family.

We thank you for the blessings of this life, including those celebrating birthdays, especially John, Charlotte, and Matt, as well as anniversaries.

Give to the departed eternal rest.

**Let light perpetual shine upon them.**

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy. We especially pray for the Kentucky tornado victims, their families, and all who are helping them cope with their tremendous loss.

**May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.**

*Concluding Collect:*

Lord, hear the prayers of your people; and what we have asked faithfully, grant that we may obtain effectually, to the glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION OF SIN

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Silence may be kept.*

**Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done,  
and by what we have left undone.**

**We have not loved you with our whole heart;  
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.**

**We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.**



**For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,  
have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will,  
and walk in your ways,  
to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

## THE PEACE

The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

*The people will greet one another with a sign of God's peace. Don't forget to show the sign of peace to our friends who are worshiping with us virtually.*

### **Please be seated.**

*We continue to do God's work and your contributions of any size make a huge difference. Give online ([sherwoodcokekeysville.org/give](http://sherwoodcokekeysville.org/give)) or if you would prefer, mail your contribution to 5 Sherwood Road, Cockeyville, 21030. Thank you!*

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

*All persons, including children, are invited to receive the real and living presence of Jesus Christ in the Holy Communion. Come forward to the altar rail at the invitation of the ushers. To receive the Bread, extend your hands upward, palms crossed. If you would prefer a blessing in lieu of Communion, please cross your arms on your chest.*

## THE OFFERTORY

*The people are seated while an offering is collected to support God's mission here at Sherwood Church and in the world.*

## OFFERTORY HYMN

*Magnificat - Randall Thompson*

*Please stand as you are able.*

Celebrant: All things come of thee, O Lord.

People: **And of thine own we have given thee.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer B - BCP pg. 367

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*Then, facing the Holy Table, the Celebrant proceeds*

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth ...

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS

*Holy, holy, holy*

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r, of  
pow'r\_ and might. Hea - ven and earth are full of your glo - ry.  
Ho - san - na in\_ the high - est. Blessed is he, is he who comes



*The Celebrant gives thanks to God for the reconciling work of Christ's passion and resurrection and prayers over the bread and wine.*

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

*People and Celebrant*

**We remember his death,**

**We proclaim his resurrection,**

**We await his coming in glory;**

By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

BCP pg. 364

*The Celebrant says*

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

*People and Celebrant*

**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,**

**forever and ever. Amen.**

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept.*

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

**Therefore let us keep the feast.**

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

## AGNUS DEI

Arranged by Andrew Adair



*For those who are not able to be present for communion, please pray the Spiritual Communion Prayer while communion is distributed.*

## A PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

*Episcopal Prayer Book for the Armed Forces (1988)*

*In union, O Lord, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, we desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. We remember your death, Lord Christ; we proclaim your resurrection; we await your coming*

*in glory. And since we cannot receive you today in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, we beseech you to come spiritually into our hearts. Cleanse and strengthen us with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let us never be separated from you. May we live in you, and you in us, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.*

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

BCP pg. 365

Let us pray.

**Almighty and everliving God,  
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food  
of the most precious Body and Blood  
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;  
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries  
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,  
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.  
And now, Father, send us out  
to do the work you have given us to do,  
to love and serve you  
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.  
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,  
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

*The Celebrant pronounces a blessing over the people, and the people respond, **Amen.***

RECESSIONAL HYMN - 72

*Hark! the glad sound!*

1 Hark! the glad sound! the Savior comes,  
the Savior promised long;  
let every heart prepare a throne,  
and every voice a song.

2 He comes, the prisoners to release  
in Satan's bondage held;  
the gates of brass before him burst,  
the iron fetters yield.

3 He comes, the broken heart to bind,  
the bleeding soul to cure;

and with the treasures of his grace  
to enrich the humble poor.

4 Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace,  
thy welcome shall proclaim;  
and heaven's eternal arches ring  
with thy beloved Name.

## THE DISMISSAL

As we go forth into the world, refreshed and renewed, we reaffirm our  
commitment to our mission as a congregation:

**God commands us to enthusiastically cast open our doors to embrace all,  
impacting lives through bold service, no exceptions.**

Let us go forth to love and serve the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

### Worship Participants

Celebrant: The Rev. Nancy H. Hennessey  
Music Director: Greg Sesek  
Cantor: Cassidy Dixon  
Preacher: Seminarian Karen Mercer  
Lector: Bronwyn Mitchell-Strong

Acolyte: Dylan Strong  
Ushers: Bill & Karyn Galetto  
Broadcast Engineer: Stephanie Everts  
Hospitality: Loretta Cunninghame, Bill &  
Karyn Galetto, Joyce Mann, Sandy  
Thompson, Anne Wismer

### Lay Participants for Friday, December 24: Christmas Eve

Lectors: Bronwyn Mitchell-Strong, Carrie  
Fowler, Jack Turnbull  
Acolyte: Anne Wismer  
Crucifer: Mason Strong  
Torch Bearers: Dylan Barrett, Dylan Strong  
Ushers: TBD  
Broadcast Engineer: Stephanie Everts

### Lay Participants for Sunday, December 26: Lessons & Carols

Lectors: Loretta Cunninghame,  
Carrie Fowler, Karen Mercer, Anne Wismer  
Acolyte: Karen Mercer  
Usher: Sandy Thompson  
Broadcast Engineer: Anne Wismer  
Hospitality: VOLUNTEER NEEDED

*Please keep those with ongoing needs in your prayers: Sally, Debbie, Shannon, Norma, Joyce, Christine, Kendall, Marge, Sarah, Gail, Steve W., Michelle, Joe G., Jeanetta, Christina, Khalil, Danny, Joe C., Marisa, Bill P., Dante, David D., Sandy & Jack, Alice, Debbie R., and Marian.*

*Thank you for joining us for worship. Please be sure to check out our Facebook page for updates and also remember to subscribe to our YouTube channel. If you are interested in receiving our e-newsletter, please contact Carey Mednick at [sherwoodparish@gmail.com](mailto:sherwoodparish@gmail.com).*

### ***This Week @ Sherwood***

#### **Sunday**

Youth Formation via Zoom @ Noon

#### **Monday**

Mother Nancy's day off  
Office closed

#### **Tuesday**

Office Hours 10 am-3 pm  
UCAN Board Meeting@ 1-2:30 pm, St. Joseph's Catholic Church, Mother Nancy  
Joseph Bible Study via Zoom @ 6:15 pm

#### **Thursday**

Joseph Bible Study via Zoom @ 3 pm  
*See Christmas Service Schedule on page 16*

### **Did You Know?**

Each Sunday in Advent we will be adding figures to the manger. Advent is a time for preparation and waiting. Last week the shepherds and their sheep were placed in the manger. This week Mary, Joseph, and the donkey will join the manger scene. The birth of Christ is near!

### **Help Stuff Some Bags!**

Join us after church today to stuff the snack bags for the 6th graders at CMS. It shouldn't take long with many helpers. The students will watch a holiday movie and enjoy a small snack right before the holiday break.

### **Important Update on Sunday, January 9:**

Great things are happening at Sherwood! Join us in person after the service for a progress report on our stormwater management project. We are well on our way to protecting God's creation!

### **Great Gift Idea!**

This season offers another excellent year of adult retreats for people of all ages and backgrounds. Consider giving yourself or a loved one the gift of restoration and community by registering them for a weekend at Claggett. Events include a Women's Retreat, a Men's Retreat, and a Writers' Retreat. [Click here](#) for more information and to register: [claggettcenter.org/adult-programs](http://claggettcenter.org/adult-programs).

### **Help for a Family Tragedy:**

Earlier this week, three Cockeysville children (ages 6, 9, and 11) lost their parents by murder-suicide. A GoFundMe has been set up to help the children's grandmother pay for their mother's funeral as well as other expenses related to the children's needs. If you would like to contribute, please [click here](#):

<https://www.gofundme.com/f/funeral-expenses-and-support-for-the-williams>



## **Christmas Service Schedule 2021**

*We invite you to come celebrate with us!*

### **Christmas Eve Service @ 5 pm--In person and on Facebook Live**

Festive service with communion as we rejoice in the birth of Christ, including our tradition of singing *Silent Night* by candlelight

### **Christmas Day Service @ 9 am--On Facebook Live**

Join Mother Nancy for Morning Prayer from her home on Christmas morning

### **First Sunday after Christmas @ 10 am**

*Christmas Lessons and Carols in person and on Facebook Live*

The celebration continues with readings and carols sung by everyone to enjoy