

**ST. LUKE'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH**  
**Shawnee, Kansas**



**A SERVICE OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION**

**THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

December 20, 2020

## The Opening Hymn

*Tell Out My Soul*  
*The Hymnal 1982 #438*

1 Tell out my soul, the greatness of the Lord!  
Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice;  
Tender to me the promise of His word;  
In God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.

2 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of His Name!  
Make known His might, the deeds His arm has done;  
His mercy sure, from age to age the same;  
His holy Name the Lord, the Mighty One.

3 Tell out, my soul, the greatness of His might!  
Powers and dominions lay their glory by.  
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,  
The hungry fed the humble lifted high

4 Tell out, my soul, the glories of His word!  
Firm is His promise, and His mercy sure.  
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord  
To children's children and for evermore!

CCLI Song # 2402653

Timothy Dudley-Smith

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## THE WORD OF GOD

### The Opening Acclamation

*Celebrant* Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

*People* ***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.***

### Lighting the Advent Wreath

Today we relight the first three candles of the Advent Wreath, the candles of Hope, Peace and Joy. [The first two purple candles, and the single rose candle, are lit.] Now we light the fourth candle of Advent. This is the candle of Love. Jesus demonstrated self-giving love in his ministry as the Good Shepherd. Advent is a time for kindness, thinking of others, and sharing with others. It is a time to love as God loved us by giving us his most precious gift. As God is love, let us be love also. [The last purple candle is lit.]

In the Gospel of John we hear: "I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another." (13:34-35)



Let us pray: Teach us to love, O Lord. May we always remember to put you first as we follow Christ's footsteps, that we may know your love and show it in our lives. As we prepare for our celebration of Jesus' birth, also fill our hearts with love for the world, that all may know your love and the one whom you have sent, your son, our Savior. **Amen.**

*Celebrant and People*

***Lord, have Mercy.***

***Christ, have Mercy.***

***Lord, have Mercy.***

**Collect of the Day**

*Celebrant*      The Lord be with you.

*People*          ***And also with you.***

*Celebrant*      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.**

**The Old Testament      2 Samuel 7: 1 - 11, 16**

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.

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

### **The Response    Canticle 15**

**The Song of Mary *Magnificat*    *Luke 1:46-55***

**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 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.

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

**Gospel Anthem**

*El Shaddai*

**Chorus**

El Shaddai El Shaddai  
El Elyonna Adonai  
Age to age You're still the same  
By the power of the name  
El Shaddai El Shaddai  
Erkamkana Adonai  
We will praise and lift You high  
El Shaddai

**Verse 2**

Through the years You made it clear  
That the time of Christ was near  
Though the people couldn't see  
What Messiah ought to be  
Though Your Word contained the plan  
They just could not understand  
Your most awesome work was done  
In the frailty of Your Son  
*[Chorus]*

**Verse 1**

Through Your love and through the ram  
You saved the son of Abraham  
Through the power of Your hand  
You turned the sea into dry land  
To the outcast on her knees  
You were the God who really sees  
And by Your might  
You set Your children free  
*[Chorus]*

CCLI Song # 26856

John W. Thompson | Michael Card

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**The Gospel Luke 1 : 26-38**

*Priest*            The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.  
*People*             **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

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.

*Priest*  
*People*

The Gospel of the Lord.  
***Praise to you, Lord Christ.***

**Sermon**      **The Reverend Jonathan Brice**



*Detail of the Annunciation from the Basilica of Our Lady of the Rosary of Lourdes, France. Photo by Lawrence OP. [Flickr](#)*

## **The Nicene Creed**

*All stand and say together.*

**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 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**



**Prayers of the People**  
**December 20, 2020**  
**The Fourth Sunday of Advent**

*Rejoicing with Mary that the word comes among us, let us offer to God our prayers, saying: “**Lord, hear our prayer.**”*

May we find in Mary, the servant of the Lord, the model of our heart’s willing surrender to God’s call. For this let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

May we discover in true spiritual virginity the richness of what God alone can do to make Christ come alive in Mary, in us, and in all the world. For this let us prayer to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

May the God of mystery who dwells in unapproachable light draw us more and more deeply into the path of divine wisdom beyond all human expectation. For this let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

May our assembly of disciples be a womb and a place for the shaping of Christ by God’s power, so that we may give birth to Christ from the womb of our community for the world. For this let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

May our deepest hearts find strength in the gift of blessed hope that what God has begun to do in our world and in all our persons by Christ’s saving work will be brought to its fullness by our Savior. For this let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

May we remember before God all who are in any need and who cry for the presence of God. For this let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, hear our prayer.**

**In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer:**

Pray for Full Communion Partner, the Philippine Independent Church

**In the World Council of Churches Cycle of Prayer:**

Pray for the people of Benin, Côte d’Ivoire and Togo

**In the Kansas Cycle of Prayer:**

Pray for Grace, Winfield

For this let us pray to the Lord, **Lord, hear our prayer.**

**For Those Serving in the Armed Forces:** Devon Allen; Murphy Bright; Ben Dible; Coy Goodman; Michael Green; Harvey Hayselden; Drew Hunnicutt; Benjamin Karpinski; Patrick McAnerney; Alex Shaw; Jose Te'o; Brian Wichaël; Collin Kelly; Macauley Garton; Frank Bednar; Grant Bednar

For this let us pray to the Lord, ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

**For Health & Strength:** Annie Bax; Craig Knabel; Candace Harvey; Rose Youngs; The Family of Keala Kauanui; the Family of Steve Osborne; Jeanne and Bruce Miller; Wayne White; Karen Mitchell; Frankie Woodman; Jerome; Christy and Family; Jim, Danny and Michelle; John Howell; Dixie Moss; Doug and Arlene Finney; Judy Ball; Charlene Lassiter; Charlie Luetje ; Barbara Alexander; Janet Kay; Dakota and Cyd Pfeiffer; Mililani Hayselden; Courtney Canova; Curtis Smith; Sandy Blascyk; James Johann; Maxine Liebst; Elizabeth Appleyard; Adam Griest; Roger Aton; Craig & Jeanette Burris; Anthony Straker; Jack Harris; "Spike" Speicher; the Hoffmann family, especially John Hoffman; Florence Kirkland; Michael Siragusa; Jeanne McDowell; Ken Hoag; Matt Hunnicutt; Joanne Diviney; Geraldine; Richard Mann; Don Hoffman; Ginger Waters; Maxine Jones; Jonell Knodel; Athyana McElwee; Lana Rae, Evan Higgins; Homer Nash; Kristy Maendele; Deb Calloway, Jim Darnell, Stephanie Robertson and family; Budd Hughes;

For this let us pray to the Lord, ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

**For Birthdays:** Lexi Riddle.

For this let us pray to the Lord, ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

For all who have died, especially Tom Woodman, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom. For this let us pray to the Lord, ***Lord, hear our prayer.***

*Call us to yourself, O God, as you called Mary, that we may be formed into a dwelling of holiness, giving life to all the peoples of the world through Mary's son, Jesus Christ. Amen.*

### **Birthday Prayer**

Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

### **The Confession of Sin**

*Priest* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

*Priest and People*

**Most merciful God,  
we confess that we have sinned against you  
in thought, word, and deed,**



# THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

## Eucharistic Prayer A

*Standing as you are able.*

*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 him thanks and praise.***

*Celebrant*

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 say this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

*Celebrant and People*

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*Celebrant*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all. He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ 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.**

*Celebrant*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his 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; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

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 Father, now and for ever.

**AMEN.**

*Celebrant*

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

**The Lord's Prayer**

*(All together)*

**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.**

## **The Breaking of the Bread**

*A period of silence is kept.*

*Celebrant* Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

*People* **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

### **Post Communion Hymn**

*Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus*

*The Hymnal 1982 #66*

**1** Come, thou long expected Jesus  
born to set Thy people free;  
from our fears and sins release us,  
let us find our rest in Thee.

**2** Israel's strength and consolation,  
hope of all the earth thou art;  
dear desire of every nation,  
joy of every longing heart.

**3** Born thy people to deliver,  
born a child, and yet a King,  
born to reign in us forever,  
now thy gracious kingdom bring.

**4** By thine own eternal Spirit  
rule in all our hearts alone;  
by Thine all sufficient merit,  
raise us to thy glorious throne.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

Music: *Stuttgart*, melody from *Psalmodia Sacra, oder Andachtige und Schone Gesange*, 1715; adapt. and harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870) alt.

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*A spiritual communion is a devotional action that anyone can pray. It expresses the desire to receive Holy Communion at a moment where circumstances impede them from actually receiving the consecrated bread and wine.*

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

**My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I desire to offer you praise and thanksgiving as I proclaim your resurrection. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot receive you in the Sacrament of your Body and Blood, come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, Lord Jesus, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

*Celebrant and People*

**Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

### **The Blessing**

*Priest*

The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

### **Announcements**

#### **The Closing Hymn**

*Refiner's Fire (purify my heart)*

#### **Verse 1**

Purify my heart  
Let me be as gold  
And precious silver  
Purify my heart  
Let me be as gold  
Pure gold  
[Chorus]

#### **Chorus**

Refiner's fire  
My heart's one desire  
Is to be holy  
Set apart for You Lord  
I choose to be holy  
Set apart for You my Master  
Ready to do Your will

#### **Verse 2**

Purify my heart  
Cleanse me from within  
And make me holy  
Purify my heart  
Cleanse me from my sin  
Deep within  
[Chorus]

CCLI Song # 426298

Brian Doerksen

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## The Dismissal

*Deacon* Alleluia. Alleluia. Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People* ***Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.***



Rector: The Rev. Jonathan Brice

Deacon: Karen Wichael

Director of Music Ministry: Jacob Hofeling

Technical Team: Dennis Phillips, Tom Schrempp, Wayne Fowler

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