4th Sunday of Advent INTRODUCTORY RITES



Text: LM with refrain; Latin, 9th cent.; verses 1, 3–6, para. in *Psalteriolum Cantionum Catholicarum*, Cologne, 1710; tr. by John Mason Neale, 1818–1866; verses 2, 7 tr. fr. *The Hymnal 1940*, alt. Music: *Processionale*, 15th cent. French; adapt. by Thomas Helmore, 1811–1890; Chant, Mode I.

SIGN OF THE CROSS

Priest: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

GREETING

Priest: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,

and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And with your spirit.

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PENETENTIAL ACT

All: I confess to almighty God and to you, my brothers and sisters,

that I have greatly sinned, in my thoughts and in my words,

in what I have done and in what I have failed to do,

And, striking their breast, they say:

through my fault, through my fault,

through my most grievous fault;

therefore I ask blessed Mary ever-Virgin,

all the Angels and Saints,

and you, my brothers and sisters,

to pray for me to the Lord our God.

The absolution by the Priest follows:

Priest: May almighty God have mercy on us,

forgive us our sins,

and bring us to everlasting life.

All: Amen.



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COLLECT

Priest: Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you

in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST READING

Micah 5:1-4a

A reading from the Book of the Prophet Micah

Thus says the LORD:

You, Bethlehem-Ephrathah

too small to be among the clans of Judah,

from you shall come forth for me

one who is to be ruler in Israel;

whose origin is from of old,

from ancient times.

Therefore the Lord will give them up, until the time

when she who is to give birth has borne,

and the rest of his kindred shall return

to the children of Israel.

He shall stand firm and shepherd his flock

by the strength of the LORD,

in the majestic name of the LORD, his God;

and they shall remain, for now his greatness

shall reach to the ends of the earth; he shall be peace.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

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SECOND READING

Hebrews 10:5-10

A reading from the First Letter of St. Paul to the Hebrews

Brothers and sisters:

When Christ came into the world, he said:

"Sacrifice and offering you did not desire,

but a body you prepared for me;

in holocausts and sin offerings you took no delight.

Then I said, 'As is written of me in the scroll,

behold, I come to do your will, O God."

First he says, "Sacrifices and offerings,

holocausts and sin offerings,

you neither desired nor delighted in."

These are offered according to the law.

Then he says, :Behold, I come to do your will."

He takes away the first to establish the second.

By this "will," we have been consecrated

through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Lector: The word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

GOSPEL Luke 1:39-45

Deacon: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Deacon: A reading from the holy Gospel according to Luke

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

Mary set out

and traveled to the hill country in haste

to a town of Judah,

where she entered the house of Zechariah

and greeted Elizabeth.

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting,

the infant leaped in her womb,

and Elizabeth, filled with the Holy Spirit, cried out in a loud voice and said, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb.

And how does this happen to me, that the mother of my Lord should come to me?

For at the moment the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the infant in my womb leaped for joy.

Blessed are you who believed that what was spoken to you by the Lord would be fulfilled."

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

HOMILY

THE CREED

All: I believe in one God,

the Father almighty,

maker of heaven and earth,

of all things visible and invisible.

I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ,

the Only Begotten Son of God,

born of the Father before all ages.

God from God,

Light from Light,

true God from true God,

begotten, not made, consubstantial with the Father;

through him all things were made.

For us men and for our salvation he came down from heaven,

At the words that follow, up to and including 'and became man', all bow.

and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary, and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,

he suffered death and was buried,

and rose again on the third day

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.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,

who proceeds from the Father and the Son,

who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,

who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.

I confess one Baptism for the forgiveness of sins

and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead and the life of the world to come. Amen.

THE PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

All: Hear our prayer.

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

OFFERTORY SONG

Hail Mary, Gentle Woman

Intro: Cantor

Hail Mary, full of grace, the Lord is with you. Blessed are you among women and blest is the fruit of your womb, Jesus. Holy Mary, Mother of God, pray for us sinners now and at the hour of death. Amen.



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All: Blessed be God for ever (x2)

Priest: Pray, brethren (brothers and sisters),

that my sacrifice and yours

may be acceptable to God,

the almighty Father.

All: May the Lord accept the sacrifice at your hands

for the praise and glory of his name,

for our good and the good of all his holy Church.

Priest: Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen.

THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

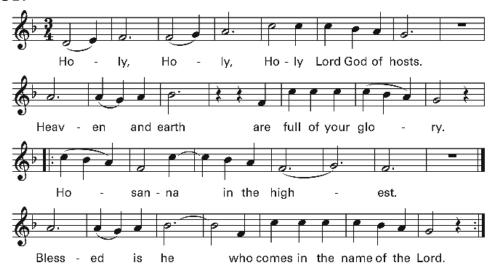
Priest: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

Priest: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right and just.

HOLY



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MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION



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Priest: Through him, and with him, and in him,

O God, almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

all glory and honor is yours, for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

THE COMMUNION RITE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Priest: At the Savior's command and formed by divine teaching, we dare to say:

All: 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.

Priest: Deliver us, Lord, we pray, from every evil, graciously grant peace in our days,

that, by the help of your mercy, we may be always free from sin

and safe from all distress, as we await the blessed hope

and the coming of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

All: For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours now and for ever.

SIGN OF PEACE

Priest: Lord Jesus Christ, who said to your Apostles:

Peace I leave you, my peace I give you, look not on our sins,

but on the faith of your Church, and graciously grant her peace and unity

in accordance with your will.

Who live and reign for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

Priest: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: And with your spirit.

Deacon: Let us offer each other the sign of peace.

LAMB OF GOD



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COMMUNION

Priest: Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world.

Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

All: Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof,

but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

My Jesus,

I believe that you are truly present in the most Blessed Sacrament.

I love you above all things and I desire to possess You within my soul.

Since I am unable at this moment to receive You sacramentally,

come at lease spiritually into my heart.

I embrace You as being already there,

and unite myself wholly to You.

Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen



PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Priest: Through Christ our Lord.

All: Amen

FINAL BLESSING

Priest: The Lord be with you.

All: And with your spirit.

Priest: May almighty God bless you,

the Father, and the Son, # and the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

DISMISSAL

Deacon: Go in peace, glorifying the Lord by your life.

All: Thanks be to God.



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