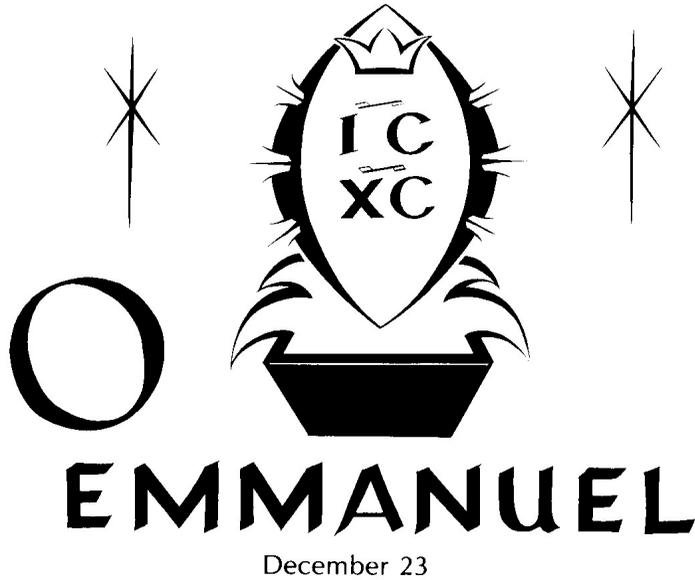


Holy Eucharist, Rite II



The Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 23, 2018

Prayer List

Let us pray...

...in thanksgiving for the members of our congregation: Chris Dudley, George Dyson, Ruby Dyson, Catharine Gibson.

...for support and protection for those who serve our country at home and abroad: Mike Busey, Christopher Walker, Steven Mattingly, Sam Gray, Wes Dyson, Michael Petrusic, and Thomas J. Hunt.

...for those in need of God's healing grace: Missy Bowie; Chris Bowie; Wayne Buffalo; Angela Downes; Kathy Doyle; Sam Linton; Lindy Lynch; Erin Macri; Bonnie Santora; Jean Santora. *Our continuing prayers are offered for:* Mabel Bowie; Hope Cameron; Conor Doyle; George Dyson; Butch Helwig; Carol Hindle; Dian Lockamy; Buddy Linton; Rhonda McGraw; Jeanne Read; Rose Speake; Joan Shoemaker; Roy Squires; The Rev. Arnold Taylor; Lisa Tuono; Luci Wright.

The Diocese of Washington cycle of prayer: Our Presiding Bishop, Michael Curry; Church of St. Stephen and the Incarnation /San Estaban y La Encarnacion, DC; St. John's Church, Zion Parish; St. John's Church, Broad Creek; St. John's Church, Mt. Rainier. **The Anglican Communion cycle of prayer:** Kubwa - (Abuja, Nigeria) The Rt Revd Duke Akamisoko.

Thank you!

You, the people of Durham Church, are a blessing to me, and I am honored to be serving Christ with you. Your generosity of spirit shows in so many ways: it shows in the time and talent you devote to the care of this community, from bookkeeping to cooking to plumbing and so many other expressions of love, and it shows in the generous gift you gathered for me at the anniversary of my installation as Rector. I am both humbled and delighted by your generosity to me. From the bottom of my heart, Thank you! /Catharine+

Announcements

Don't forget that these announcements can also be found on the church website, OldDurham.org. Look for a button near the top left of the home page. When you read the announcements on line, you can follow the live links to websites mentioned in the announcements.

Adult Forum has concluded its video lecture series on church history from the Reformation to the present! There will be no Adult Forum on Dec. 23 or Dec. 30. Join us in January at 9:15am in the Parish Hall on Sunday mornings. On January 6, we will have a special presentation on the Feast of the Epiphany.

Coffee Hour. Join us for an expanded edition of 'Coffee After Church' this morning. Come

greet Bishop Mariann and share a time of fellowship in the Parish Hall after the service.

Wrap some gifts! Our Deacon Susan has passed this opportunity along to us: Our Place Waldorf, the soup kitchen she is involved with, is wrapping gifts at the St. Charles Town Center mall all through December. They could use donations of paper, tape, and boxes, and especially of volunteer wrappers. To volunteer, sign up at www.ourplacewaldorf.com or call 240-210-9813.

Christmas Eve: We will have a festive reception hosted by the Vestry at 6:30pm, followed by a candle-lit worship service at 7:30pm. Invite your friends and neighbors!

(More) Lessons and Carols. We will hold a service of *Christmas* Lessons and Carols on Sunday, December 30th at 10:30am. Like last week' service, it should be a good introduction to the church for friends and neighbors. (Plus, a chance to sing lots of Christmas carols !)

Jam Session! Friday, Jan. 4th at 7pm in the Parish Hall. All are welcome. Contact: Dave Rohde.

Worship Committee will meet after church on Jan. 6th. Contact: Rev. Catharine.

Daughters of the King and the Mens Group will meet on Jan. 7th at 6:30 pm in the Parish Hall.

The Ladies Mites will meet Jan. 8th at 1:30pm in the Parish Hall. Contact: Linda Buffalo.

Joe's Place Food Pantry distributions are on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month from 4:30 to 6pm in the Parish Hall. The next distributions are Jan. 10th and 24th. Volunteers are always welcome to sort and distribute food to our neighbors. Contact: Millie Hamman.

The Pastoral Care Team will meet after church on Jan. 13th. Contact: Rev. Catharine.

Finance Committee will meet after church on Jan. 20th in the Parish Hall.

The Vestry will meet on Jan. 24th at 7pm in the Parish Hall.



THE WAY OF LOVE

Practices for Jesus-Centered Life

The Way of Love

Coming in January: 'The Way of Love sermon series'. Here's a spiritual New Year's resolution for you: adopt a 'Rule of Life.' In January we will follow the Episcopal Church's special 'Way of Love' lectionary to guide us through sermon reflections on the essential practices of a Jesus-centered life. Then in Lent we will offer practical resources for constructing your very own rule of life. The Diocese of Washington has a great collection of 'Way of Love' resources here: <https://www.edow.org/congregational-vitality/the-way-of-love>



Today's Collect

'Collects' are prayers that collect our thoughts and intentions and offer them to God in a specific form, sort of the way sonnets are poems that express their thoughts and themes in a specific form. To create a collect 'Mad-Libs' style you would do something like this:

"O God who _____[name a characteristic of God], please _____[name a request] so that _____[name a reason you want the requested outcome]."

Collects are some of the literary gems of the Anglican tradition, and the collects of Advent are some of the most well-loved in the *Book of Common Prayer*. Each Sunday in Advent I will share with you a little of the background of the Collect of the Day, drawing from Marion Hatchett's 1981 *Commentary on the American Prayer Book*.

Fourth Sunday of Advent: *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.*

This collect, like those for the first and third Sundays of Advent, is a revised version of an 8th century collect. Appropriately for use in the season when the first advent is recalled and the second advent is anticipated, it refers to Jesus' entry into Jerusalem (Luke 19:44), "you did not know the time of your visitation," and prays that our consciences may be purified by His "daily" visitation. It prays that, in contrast to His first advent when there was no room for Him in the inn, "he may find in us a mansion prepared for himself." This collect is especially in accord with the Annunciation theme of the readings for the day.

Getting to know Durham Church, and ways to get involved

We are glad you have joined us for worship today. Below is some information about our church and ways to get involved. Or you can just ask—we are a friendly bunch and happy to talk about our church.

Christian Formation

The Adult Forum, which is held at 9:15AM on Sundays in the Parish Hall, is a time to learn about the Christian tradition and how it intersects our lives. Programs vary, with video lecture series, discussions, and presentations. See Rick Posey for more details.

Lenten Program: Starting in March, we will be offering a Lenten Program called 'Growing a Rule of Life.' There are many ways to participate, both in small group settings and individually through journals and videos. See Rev. Catharine for more details.

Serving our Neighbors

Joe's Place: There are several ways to help with the parish's food pantry. We offer food to neighbors in need on the 2nd and 4th Thursdays of each month from 4:30 to 6:00 pm. Volunteers of all ages are always needed to help pick up food beforehand and participate in the distribution. See Millie Hamman for more details.

Community Building: If you are interested in exploring the lives and needs of others in our community and in our world, you might be interested in joining the Community Building Group. We discuss books, movies, and articles focused on building community across difference. See Rick Posey for more details.

Serving our Parish

Serving our worship: There are many opportunities to serve in Sunday morning worship services. We can always use more voices in the choir, more music, more people to lead the prayers, carry the chalice, read the lessons, serve at the altar, carry the cross, carry the offerings, and hand out bulletins. See Rev. Catharine for more details.

Small projects: In any parish there are a variety of little projects that crop up. They might be anything from moving the mailboxes to making a prayer box for visitors to the church. These little projects are good ways for people of all ages to get involved. If you have an idea of a little project that might benefit our common life, or if you'd like to volunteer, see Rev. Catharine.

Ministers in Today's Service

Crucifer and Acolyte: Carl Lockamy; **Readers**: Gary Leyland and Barbara Macri; **Preacher and Presider**: The Rt. Rev. Mariann E. Budde; **Intercessor**: Jane Linton; **Chalicians**: Barbara Macri and Melinda Torreyson; **Altar Guild**: Patsy Welch.

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Mobile: (703) 283-4962

Deacon: The Rev. Susan Fritz

Deacon.Susan.Fritz@gmail.com

Mobile: (301) 643-4233

Director of Music: Kathryn D. Doyle

Millie Hamman - Senior Warden

Bernard Torreyson - Junior Warden

Roy Squires - Secretary of the Vestry

Members of the Vestry:

George Chisholm, Bill White, Tom Saxton, Rick Posey

Carl Lockamy - Parish Treasurer

The Rev. Arnold Taylor - Rector Emeritus

The Rt Rev. Mariann Edgar Budde, Bishop of Washington

Established 1661 - Chartered 1692

The Prayers of the People are drawn from Praying the Scriptures. The Eucharistic Prayer was composed by The Rev. Bill Doggett.

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