

Advent 4
28 December 2025
8 am Holy Eucharist

*The Book of Common Prayer Communion service is found in the accompanying seasonal booklet. The Congregation joins in the **bold font**.*

Collect of the Day

Presider: Let us pray,

All: O Lord God,
you know that we cannot place our trust
in our own powers.
As you protected the infant Jesus,
so defend us and all in need
from harm and adversity;
through Jesus Christ, our Saviour and Lord,
who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The First Lesson: Isaiah 710-16

Reader: The First Lesson is taken from the prophet Isaiah,

⁷ I will recount the gracious deeds of the LORD, the praiseworthy acts of the LORD, because of all that the LORD has done for us, and the great favour to the house of Israel that he has shown them according to his mercy, according to the abundance of his steadfast love. ⁸ For he said, 'Surely they are my people, children who will not deal falsely'; and he became their saviour ⁹ in all their distress. It was no messenger or angel but his presence that saved them; in his love and in his pity he redeemed them; he lifted them up and carried them all the days of old.

Here endeth the First Lesson.

Gradual Psalm: 148 Laudate Dominum.

- ¹ O praise the LORD from the heavens: /
praise him in the heights.
- ² Praise him, all ye angels of his: /
praise him, all his host.
- ³ Praise him, sun and moon: /
praise him, all ye stars of light.
- ⁴ Praise him, all ye heavens, /
and ye waters that are above the heavens.
- ⁵ Let them praise the Name of the LORD; /
For he commanded and they were created.
- ⁶ He hath made them fast for ever and ever: /
he hath given them a law which shall not be broken.
- ⁷ Praise the LORD from the earth, /
ye dragons and all deeps;
- ⁸ Fire and hail, snow and vapour, /
wind and storm, fulfilling his word;
- ⁹ Mountains and all hills; /
fruitful trees and all cedars;
- ¹⁰ Beasts and all cattle; /
creeping things and feathered fowls;
- ¹¹ Kings of the earth, and all peoples; /
Princes and all judges of the world;
- ¹² Young men and maidens together; /
Old men and children;
- ¹³ Let them praise the Name of the LORD; /
For his Name only is excellent, and his glory above heaven and earth.
- ¹⁴ He shall exalt the horn of his people; All his saints shall praise him: /
even the children of Israel, even the people that serveth him.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost,
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.

The Gospel: Matthew 2:13-23

Presider: The Lord be with you,

All: and with thy Spirit.

Presider: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

All: Glory be to thee, O Lord.

¹³ Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, 'Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.' ¹⁴ Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, ¹⁵ and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, 'Out of Egypt I have called my son.'

¹⁶ When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. ¹⁷ Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah: ¹⁸ 'A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.'

¹⁹ When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, ²⁰ 'Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child's life are dead.' ²¹ Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. ²² But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. ²³ There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, 'He will be called a Nazorean.'

The Gospel of Christ.

All: Praise be to thee, O Christ.

Readings for Epiphany, transferred to January 4, 2025

Isaiah 60:1-6; Psalm 72; Ephesians 3:1-12; Matthew 2:1-12



This Week at HTC

No Wednesday midweek service

SERVICES ARE LIVE-STREAMED VIA FACEBOOK

*For more information and to sign-up for the newsletter,
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