

4th Sunday of Advent

HYMN: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (verse 1)

Four candles are lit during the singing.

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

All: **Amen.**

Leader: Our help is in the name of the Lord.

All: **Who made heaven and earth.**

OPENING PRAYER: Good and gracious God,
whose Word came to Mary through the message of an angel,
Grant that, by her example,
We may humbly say 'yes' to your will.
Amen.

SCRIPTURE: Luke 1:39-45

A reading from the gospel according to Luke:

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."

The Gospel of the Lord.

All: **Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

INTERCESSIONS:

Christ came in the form of a tiny baby to remind us to be humble. Let us pray that we may be willing to say 'yes' to God. Our response is "Come, Lord Jesus."

That our preparations for Christmas will remind us to always be grateful for the things we have, especially the people we love, we pray to the Lord.

All: **Come, Lord Jesus.**

That we will be able to listen to our conscience and do the right thing even when it is difficult to do, we pray to the Lord.

All: **Come, Lord Jesus.**

That we will be generous to people who do not have a place to live or presents to share on Christmas, we pray to the Lord.

All: **Come, Lord Jesus.**

That this wreath may constantly remind us to be quiet and listen to God, we pray to the Lord.

All: **Come, Lord Jesus.**

With humility, let us offer our prayer to the Father:

All: **Our Father . . .**

Leader: May the light of Christ lead us to the joy of his kingdom, now and forever.

All: **Amen.**

HYMN: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (verse 7)