

**SACRED HEART, TAMPA
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
5:30 PM CONTEMPORARY SERVICE
21 December 2025**

INTRODUCTORY RITES

All, please turn and face the rear of the Church for the “Reception of the Child” to be baptized.

**Opening Song: Make Straight The Way
(Blevins | Hansen)**

**V. 1 Cantor: Make straight the way
for the coming Lord**

***All: Make straight the way
for the coming Lord!***

Cantor: Every valley high,
every mountain low

***All: Every valley high,
every mountain low!***

Cantor: Every crooked road,
every winding path

***All: Every crooked road,
every winding path!***

Cantor: Make straight the way
He will come at last

***All: Make straight the way
He will come at last!***

Chorus:

Turn your heart to the King
Let His grace and mercy sing
In your heart let His justice flow
His righteousness endure! ***(Verse)***

V. 1 Cantor: Make straight the way
for the coming Lord

***All: Make straight the way
for the coming Lord!***

Cantor: Every valley high,
every mountain low

***All: Every valley high,
every mountain low!***

Cantor: Every crooked road,
every winding path

***All: Every crooked road,
every winding path!***

Cantor: Make straight the way
He will come at last

***All: Make straight the way
He will come at last!***

Bridge:

Forevermore, forevermore

He is Lord

Forevermore forevermore

He is Lord!

Chorus:

Turn your heart to the King

Let His grace and mercy sing

In your heart let His justice flow

His righteousness endure!

Ending:

Make straight the way

for the coming Lord! ***(Repeat and end)***

Derek Blevins | J. J. Hansen© 2007 WorshipInSong Music All rights reserved.

Advent Penitential Rite

Priest: Joseph believed and obeyed the God who spoke to him in a dream.

Let us open our hearts to God's speaking to us during this liturgy and reflect on how God is made present to us in our daily life...

Cantor: Lord Jesus, you are mighty God and Prince of Peace: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Cantor: Christ Jesus, you are Son of God and Son of the holy Virgin Mary: Christ, have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Cantor: Lord Jesus, you are Word made
flesh and splendor of the Father:
Lord have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Reading: Is 7:10-14

The LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying:
Ask for a sign from the LORD, your
God; let it be deep as the
netherworld, or high as the sky!
But Ahaz answered, "I will not ask!
I will not tempt the LORD!" Then
Isaiah said: Listen, O house of
David! Is it not enough for you to
weary people, must you also

weary my God? Therefore the
Lord himself will give you this sign:
the virgin shall conceive, and bear
a son, and shall name him
Emmanuel.

The Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God!**

Responsorial Psalm – Psalm 25

Common Psalm for Advent

To You, Oh Lord, I lift, my soul!
To You Oh Lord, I lift my soul!

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Second Reading: Rom 1:1-7

Paul, a slave of Christ Jesus, called to
be an apostle and set apart for the
gospel of God, which he promised

previously through his prophets in the holy Scriptures, the gospel about his Son, descended from David according to the flesh, but established as Son of God in power according to the Spirit of holiness through resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord.

Through him we have received the grace of apostleship, to bring about the obedience of faith, for the sake of his name, among all the Gentiles, among whom are you also, who are called to belong to Jesus Christ; to all the beloved of God in Rome, called to be holy. Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Word of the Lord **Thanks be to God!**

Gospel Greeting:

Alleluia! Hurry the Lord is near! (Sands)

Alleluia! Hurry the Lord is near!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Hurry the Lord is near! *(Repeat)*

Verse 4:

He is the mighty one, He is the word!

Hurry the Lord is near!

God everlasting, Prince of Peace,

Hurry the Lord is near!

Alleluia! Hurry the Lord is near!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Hurry the Lord is near!

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Gospel:

Mt 1:18-24

This is how the birth of Jesus Christ came about. When his mother Mary was betrothed to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found with child through the Holy Spirit. Joseph her husband, since he was a righteous man, yet unwilling to expose her to shame, decided to divorce her quietly. Such was his intention when, behold, the angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary your wife into your home. For it is through the Holy Spirit that this child has been conceived in her. She will bear a son and you are to name him Jesus,

because he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel, which means "God is with us." When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home.

The Gospel of the Lord
Praise to You Lord Jesus Christ

**No Repeat of the Chorus after the
Gospel Outside Ordinary Time.**
Please be seated.

Homily

RITE OF BAPTISM

Procession to the font: O Come To The Altar – (*Elevation Worship*)

Chorus:

O come to, the altar,
The Father's arms are open wide!
Forgiveness, was bought with,
The precious blood of Jesus Christ!

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Profession of Faith:

PRESIDER: Please stand. And so, I
now ask all of you here present:

Do you renounce Satan?

ALL: *I do.*

PRESIDER: And all his works?

ALL: *I do.*

PRESIDER: And all his empty show?

ALL: *I do.*

PRESIDER: Do you believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth?

ALL: *I do.*

PRESIDER: Do you believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord, who was born of the Virgin Mary, suffered death and was buried, rose again from the dead, and is seated at the right hand of the Father?

ALL: *I do.*

PRESIDER: Do you believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting?

ALL: *I do.*

After this Profession of Faith, the Cantor sings the acclamation and all repeat:



This is our faith, This is the faith of the Church.. We are proud to profess it in Christ Jesus our Lord.

The musical score is written for a single melodic line on a treble clef staff. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 3/4. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are written below the staff, with some words in red (faith, profess, Lord) and others in black. The score ends with a double bar line.

BAPTISMAL ACCLAMATION:



You have put on Christ, al - le - lu-ia! Bap-tised in Christ, al - le - lu-ia!

The musical score is written for a single melodic line on a treble clef staff. The key signature has one flat (B-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody consists of quarter and eighth notes. The lyrics are written below the staff, with hyphens indicating long notes. The score ends with a double bar line.

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Welcoming of the newly baptized:

Refrain:

Everybody sing alleluia!

Everybody praise His name!

Everybody sing alleluia!

Praise His name today!

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Universal Prayer

**Response: “Come, Lord Jesus,
hear our prayer.”**

LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Preparation of Gifts & Altar: Let It Be Done (Muglia)

V.1 When she heard the voice of God
Calling her to be,
the instrument He needed
To bring our world, the King of kings
She could not understand
The wisdom of God's plan
But still she answered
Let it be. Let it be, done unto me!

V.2 When he heard the voice of God
Calling him to stand
And take the virgin as his wife
And teach her child to be a man
He could not understand
The wisdom of God's plan
But still he answered
Let it be. Let it be, done unto me!

Chorus:

And we say yes Lord!
We're ready to receive.
Yes Lord! We're ready to believe.
Let it be. Let it be, done unto me!

V.3 When we hear the voice of God
Calling out our names
Lord we pray You give us faith
To answer You, in anything
And we may not understand
The wisdom of Your plan
But we will answer
Let it be. Let it be, done unto me!

Chorus:

And we say yes Lord!
We're ready to receive.
Yes Lord! We're ready to believe.
Let it be. Let it be, done unto me!

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Eucharistic Acclamations:

Mass of a Joyful Heart (Angrisano)

Holy, Holy – When we eat this bread –
Amen

COMMUNION RITE

Our Father

Lamb of God: **Mass of a Joyful Heart** (Angrisano)

Communion Song 1: **O Come, O Come** **Emmanuel** (Neale/ Helmore)

V.1 O come O come Emmanuel
And ransom captive Israel
That mourns in lonely exile here
Until the Son of God appear! **(chorus)**

Chorus:

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee O Israel

V.3 O come Thou Wisdom from on high
And order all thing far and nigh
To us the path of knowledge show
And cause us in her ways to go! (***chorus***)

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Communion Song 2: Prepare the Way

(Hall/Giglio)

Intro:

Prepare the way, prepare the way

Prepare the way of the Lord!

(Repeat)

Chorus:

Je-sus, Je-sus, Je-sus, Jesus!

Je-sus, Je-sus, Je-sus, Jesus!

V.1 You are the light of the world

You are the light of the world

You are the light of the world Jesus!

(Repeat then to into)

Intro:

Prepare the way, prepare the way
Prepare the way of the Lord! ***(Repeat)***

Chorus:

Je-sus, Je-sus, Je-sus, Jesus!
Je-sus, Je-sus, Je-sus, Jesus!

V.2 You are the King of the earth
You are the King of the earth
You are the King of the earth Jesus!
(Repeat then to intro)

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CONCLUDING RITE

Sending Forth Song - Emmanuel
(Angrisano)

Chorus Come, come, Emmanuel
Son of God appear!
Heaven and earth rejoice
Salvation is drawing near,
Salvation is drawing near!

V.4 O come Desire of nations bind
In one the hearts of humankind
Make all our sad divisions cease
And be for us the King of Peace! (***chorus***)

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