



The Episcopal Church of Bangor in Caernarvon
~ Founded in 1722 ~
2099 Main Street, Churchtown-Narvon, PA 17555
www.bangorepiscopal.org

Usher: Bill Zimnoch
Acolyte: Sarah Spangler
Reader: John Houton
Prayers of the people: Tom Peck
Minister of Chalice: Susie Almon-Matangos
Organist: Jaime Gould
Altar Guild: Gina Bryan, Luci Brown, Lorin Towle
Money Counters: Sarah Spangler, Bill Zimnoch

WELCOME to Bangor Episcopal Church. Founded in 1722 by Welsh colonists from St. David's Church, Radnor, the congregation took the name of Bangor Cathedral, northern Wales. As the first church founded in the present Diocese of Central Pennsylvania, Bangor Church is the "Mother Church of the Diocese."

IF YOU ARE VISITING for the first time, we welcome you and hope you will consider making Bangor your church home. Please introduce yourself to the clergy, either in person or by filling out a Visitor's Card in your pew and giving it to an usher or putting it in the Collection Plate as your offering.

THIS BULLETIN contains the order for this service. Page numbers refer to the red Book of Common Prayer. Hymns and service music can be found in the blue Hymnal.

The Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 22, 2024 at 10:00 a.m.

Holy Eucharist, Rite II

The Reverend Canon Mark A. Scheneman, presiding

The People Gather *(please keep a rule of silence)*

Processional Hymn: *"Come, thou long expected Jesus"* **Hymn 66**

Salutation and Response **p. 355 BCP**

Celebrant: Blessed be God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People: And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath (see insert)

The Collect for the Fourth Sunday of Advent

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

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.**

The Word of God *(be seated for the readings)*

The First Lesson

Micah 5:2-5a

You, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore, he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord, in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

Memorial Acclamation (in unison) **p. 368 BCP**

We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory

The Lord's Prayer (traditional words) **p. 364 BCP**

The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Angus Dei (sung in unison) **S-164**

Jesus, Lamb of God: have mercy on us.

Jesus, Bearer of our sins: have mercy on us.

Jesus, Redeemer of the world: give us your peace.

The Administration of Holy Communion

THE HOLY TABLE around which we gather is the Lord's, not our own. All baptized Christians are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

Prayer of Thanksgiving (in unison) **p. 366 BCP**

Almighty and ever living God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

The Blessing (Celebrant)

Recessional Hymn *"O come, O come, Emmanuel"* **Hymn 56, st. 1-4**

The Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People: Thanks be to God

The Exchange of the Peace (standing)

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

People: And also with you. (Greet one another in the name of the Lord.)

Announcements (be seated)

Offertory Hymn: *"Creator of the stars of night"*

Hymn 60

Reception of Gifts (sung in unison)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.

Praise Him all creatures here below.

Praise Him above ye heavenly host.

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen

Holy Communion

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

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

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

p. 367 BCP

Sanctus & Benedictus (sung in unison)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

S-130

Prayer of Consecration B (kneeling, concluding with AMEN)

p. 368 - 369 BCP

Psalm 89:1-4 (read responsively)

- Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; * **shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.**
- In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, * **stir up your strength and come to help us.**
- Restore us, O God of hosts; * **show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**
- Lord God of hosts, * **how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?**
- You have fed them with the bread of tears; * **you have given them bowls of tears to drink.**
- You have made us the derision of our neighbors, * **and our enemies laugh us to scorn.**
- Restore us, O God of hosts; * **show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

The Epistle

Hebrews 10:5-10

When Christ came into the world, he said, "Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God' (in the scroll of the book it is written of me)." When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Reader: The Word of the Lord

People: Thanks be to God

Gradual Hymn: *"Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord"*

Hymn 437, st. 1-3

The Holy Gospel (remain standing)**Luke 1:39-55**

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Luke

People: Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord." And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."

Celebrant: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.**The Sermon****The Reverend Canon Mark A. Scheneman****The Nicene Creed** (unison, standing)**p. 358 BCP**

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again 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. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son. With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets. We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The Prayers of the People: (respond after each petition)**People: Lord, hear our prayer.****Parish Intercessions** (Celebrant)**The Prayer of St. Francis** (in unison)

Lord, make us instruments of your peace. Where there is hatred, let us sow love; where there is injury, pardon; where there is discord, union; where there is doubt, faith; where there is despair, hope; where there is darkness, light; where there is sadness, joy. Grant that we may not so much seek to be consoled as to console; to be understood as to understand; to be loved as to love. For it is in giving that we receive; it is in pardoning that we are pardoned; and it is in dying that we are born to eternal life. Amen.

Confession (kneeling in unison)**p. 360 BCP**

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

Absolution (Celebrant)

Almighty God, have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**