

Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 20, 2020

Here we are, servants of the Lord. Purify our consciences so that we may offer our prayers and petitions with wholesome hearts, responding, “Come, Lord Jesus.”

+ O Emmanuel, visit those who do not know of your coming, and who have not been told of your presence, open their minds to your merciful love and be born in their hearts; reveal the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed through the prophetic writings and made known to all, for this we pray.
Come, Lord Jesus.

+ O Key of David, unlock our complacency, that we may tend to the fearful and lowly, lift up the poor and downtrodden, fill the hungry with good things, and serve your beloved with mercy and love; giving thanks especially for our work together with the Washington Council of Congregations, for this we pray.
Come, Lord Jesus.

+ O Root of Jesse, be with our scientists and medical teams as they discover lifesaving treatments and vaccines, and grant them the wisdom to use their findings for the good of all people; and help heal our nation’s wounds, for this we pray.
Come, Lord Jesus.

+ O Desire of Nations, bring peace to our families, churches, schools, and nations, that the whole world may know of your eternal harmony; that where justice rolls down the mountain like a stream; for this we pray.
Come, Lord Jesus.

+ O Wisdom, give your gift of insight to all who are responsible for the governance of our Church, corporations, national governments, social agencies, schools, armed forces, and medical facilities, that through their faith and dedication, all the peoples of the world may prosper; that your house and your kingdom shall be made sure forever; that your throne shall be established forever; for this we pray.
Come, Lord Jesus.

+ O Dayspring from on High, to the sick bring healing, especially the more than 100,000 Americans now lying in hospital with the corona virus, remembering also

those who have commended themselves to our prayers, Mary Jo Keating, Joan Beattie, Heather, Marlene and Chris Smith, Tom Witt, Ed and Zemma White, Kathy Coe, Laura Whipple, Eileen Hearn, Connie Kaylor, Jay Lafleur in hospice care, and all who are housebound especially Janet Chenery and Ken Hecken; for this we pray.

Come, Lord Jesus.

+ O God of love, grant for the dying relief, and to the dead your everlasting arms of mercy; that each of them may find a mansion prepared for themselves, especially the more than 300,000 Americans who have died in this pandemic, for their families and their communities, for our own family and friends departed, and for the benefactors of this church; for this we pray.

Come, Lord Jesus.

With the ever-blessed Virgin Mary, blessed Elizabeth, blessed John the Baptist, blessed Zechariah, blessed Anna, and all the saints, we pause our prayers momentarily, so that all worshipping with us this morning may add their own concerns and petitions, either silently in their hearts or aloud in our midst; let us continue our prayers.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.