

Saint Thomas's Church

Christmas I

Sunday, December 31, 2023

High Mass at 11:00 am



Simeon's Song of Praise, Arent de Gelder, c. 1710
Mauritshuis in The Hague, The Netherlands

Saint Thomas's Anglican Church

383 Huron Street,

Toronto, Ontario M5S 2G5

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Welcome!

On behalf of everyone who claims St. Thomas's as their spiritual home, we are happy you are with us, whether in person or via our livestream. If you are a visitor or newcomer, or even a longtime parishioner, but find it awkward or difficult to stand or kneel at the places indicated, remaining seated is perfectly acceptable. Please assume the posture most conducive to prayer throughout this service, or simply observe.

St. Thomas's has many peculiar ways that we cherish and are happy to share. If there seems to be no rhyme or reason for something, there might not be! But feel free to ask anyone after the service; it usually makes for entertaining conversation.

You are not obliged to engage any of us in conversation, though you should know that pretty much everyone here is happy to do so when we gather. You can always slip away without any judgement, though we hope you will avail yourself of **coffee hour in the parish hall** following this service, if possible. We seem to have a lot of introverts here, so we understand the energy it takes to put yourself out there. Even if you're a raging extrovert, the experience of church can be disorienting. Relax and be yourself. Believe it or not, whether from near or far, God has led you here today. We want to honour what God is up to in your life, and we are here for you as you (re-) discover the joy and the challenge of the saving Gospel of Jesus Christ.

Fr. Nathan Humphrey, Rector

Low gluten communion hosts are available upon request. When you approach for communion, indicate to the priest that you require a low gluten host.

The Altar flowers are given to the honour and glory of Almighty God.

*Those at the High Altar and the Lady Altar are in memory
of friends and family by Andrew Gray.*



St. Thomas's relies on the generosity of those whose offerings reflect gratitude for God's own generosity to us. To make a secure gift online, simply scan the QR code with your phone's camera app, or visit qrco.de/smokytops. Scroll to the bottom of the webpage to fill out the online form. **We no longer pass the plate, so if you want to give the old-fashioned way, an alms basin is available in the narthex.**

Celebrant: Fr. Don Beyers
Deacon & Homilist: Fr. Ajit John
Reader: David Kent
Organist & Choirmaster: Elizabeth Anderson
Assistant Organist & Choirmaster: Manuel Piazza

MUSIC OF THE MASS

Missa VIII de Angelis

Throughout this booklet, the People match the pitch of the Minister on the underlined syllable.

At the sound of the bell, all stand for the entrance of the Choir and Sacred Ministers.

ENTRANCE HYMN 823

From east to west

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

Composed or adapted by
M Praetorius 1572-1621

1. From east to west, from shore to shore, Let ev' - ry
heart a - wake and sing The Ho - ly Child whom
Ma - ry bore, The Christ, the ev - er - last - ing King.

- 2 Behold! the world's Creator wears
The form and fashion of a slave;
Our very flesh our Maker shares,
His fallen creature, man, to save.
- 3 For this how wondrously he wrought!
A maiden, in her lowly place,
Became, in ways beyond all thought,
The chosen vessel of his grace.

- 4 She bowed her to the angel's word
Declaring what the Father willed,
And suddenly the promised Lord
That pure and hallowed temple filled.
- 5 He shrank not from the oxen's stall,
He lay within the manger bed,
And he whose bounty feedeth all
At Mary's breast himself was fed.
- 6 And while the angels in the sky
Sang praise above the silent field,
To shepherds poor, the Lord most high,
The one great Shepherd, was revealed.
- 7 All glory for this blessed morn
To God the Father ever be,
All praise to thee, O Virgin-born,
All praise, O Holy Ghost, to thee.



Translated from the Latin of Sedulius (c. 5th century) by Rev. John Ellerton.

The People kneel.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts be open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The Choir and People sing the Kyrie, the People kneeling.

KYRIE ELEISON

1. Cantor People
Ky - ri - - - e _____ e - - - - - - le - i - son.

2. People 3. Cantor
Ky - ri - - - e _____ e - - - - - - le - i - son.

1. People 2. Cantor 3. People
Chri - ste _____ e - - - - - - le - i - son.

1. Cantor 2. People
Ky - ri - e _____ e - - - - - - le - i - son.

Cantor People
Ky - ri - e _____ e - - - - - - le - i - son.

The People stand. The Choir and People sing.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO

Missa de Angelis

Celebrant People
Glo - ry be to God on high, and in earth peace, good will to - wards men. We praise thee,
we bless___ thee, we wor - ship thee, we glo - ri - fy___ thee, we give thanks to___ thee
for thy great glo - ry, O Lord God hea - ven - ly King, God the Fath - er___ Al - mighty.

O Lord, the on-ly-be-got-ten Son, Je - su_ Christ; O Lord God,___ Lamb of God,
 Son of the___ Fath - - er, that tak - est a - way the sin of the world,___
 have mer - cy up - on us. Thou that tak - est a - way the sin of the world,
 re - ceive our _____ prayer. Thou that sit - test at the right hand of God the Fath - er,
 have mer - cy up - on us. For thou on - ly art_ ho - ly; thou on - ly_ art the Lord;
 thou on - ly,___ O Christ, with the Ho - ly Ghost, art___ most___ high
 in the glo - ry of God the Fath - - - er. A_____ men.____

The People remain standing for the Collect.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, who hast given us thy only begotten Son to take our nature upon him, and as at this time to be born of a pure Virgin: Grant that we being regenerate, and made thy children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by thy Holy Spirit; through the same our Lord Jesus Christ, who liveth and reigneth with thee and the same Spirit, ever one God, world without end. **Amen.**

The People sit.

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 61.10 - 62.3

The First Lesson is written in the sixty-first chapter of the book of the prophet Isaiah, beginning at the tenth verse.

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The People remain seated for the Psalm.

PSALM 148

Laudate Dominum

VII. 6.



- Cantor* 1 O PRAISE the Lord **from** the hea-vens :
- People* **praise** him in^the heights.
- 2 Praise him, all ye **an**-gels of his : **praise** him, all^his höst.
- Cantor* 3 **Praise** him, sun^and moon : praise him, **all** ye stars^of light.
- People* 4 Praise him, **all** ye hea-vens :
- and ye waters that are a-**bove** the hea-vëns.
- Cantor* 5 Let them praise the **Name** of the Lord :
- for he commanded and they **were** cre-a-tëd.
- People* 6 He hath made them fast for **ev**-er^and e-ver :
- he hath given them a law which shall **not** be bro-kën.

Cantor 7 Praise the **Lord** from the earth : ye **dra-gons** and^all deëps;
People 8 Fire and hail, **snow** and va-pour :
wind and storm, ful-**fill**-ing his wörd;
Cantor 9 **Moun-tains**^and all hills : fruitful trees and **äll** ced-ärs;
People 10 **Beasts** and^all cat-tle : creeping things and **fea**-ther-ed föwls;
Cantor 11 Kings of the **earth**, and^all peo-ples :
princes and all **judg**-es of^the wörlð;
People 12 Young men and **maid**-ens^to-ge-ther : old **men** and chil-drën;
Cantor 13 Let them praise the **Name** of the Lord : for his Name only is
excellent, and his glory above **hea**-ven and eärth.
People 14 He shall exalt the horn of his peo-plë; all his **saints** shall praise him :
even the children of Israel, even the **peo**-ple^that serv^eth him.

THE EPISTLE

Galatians 4.4-7

The Epistle is written in the fourth chapter of St Paul's epistle to the Galatians, beginning at the fourth verse.

But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, 'Abba! Father!' So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The People stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Cantor *People*

Al - le - lu - ia. * Al - le - lu - ia.

Tone VI

Cantor LET THE peace of Christ rule in **your** hearts :
let the word of Christ dwell **in** yōu rich-ly.

The People repeat the Alleluia from the asterisk.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 2.22-40

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

The Holy Gospel is written in the second chapter of the Gospel according to Saint Luke, beginning at the twenty-second verse.

Glory be to thee O Lord.

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, Mary and Joseph brought Jesus up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, ‘Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord’), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, ‘a pair of turtle-doves or two young pigeons.’

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, ‘Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.’

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, 'This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed - and a sword will pierce your own soul too.'

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband for seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshipped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favour of God was upon him.

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The People sit at the invitation of the Preacher.

SERMON

The People stand to sing the Creed. All who are able to kneel, please do so at “and was incarnate,” rising after “and was made man.”

THE NICENE CREED

Missa de Angelis

Celebrant *People*

I be-lieve in one___ God the Fath-er Al-migh-ty, Mak-er of hea-ven and earth,

And of all things vis - - - i - ble and in - vis - - - i - ble:

And in one Lord Je - sus Christ, the on - ly - be - got - ten Son of God,

Be - got - ten of the Fath - - er be - fore all worlds; God, of God; Light, of Light;

Ve - ry God, of Ve - ry God; Be - got - ten not___ made; Be - ing of one sub - stance

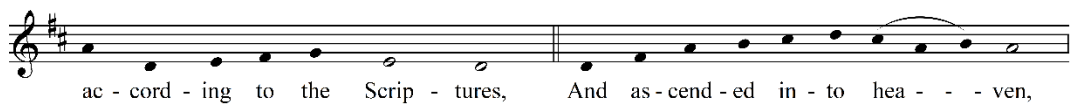
with the Fath - er; Through whom all___ things were made: Who for us men

and for our sal - va - tion came down from hea - ven, And was in - car - nate by

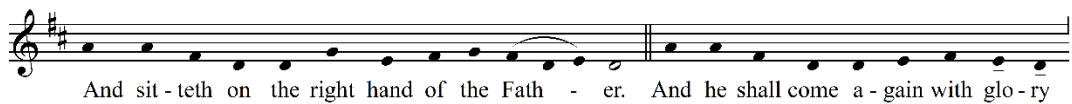
the___ Ho - ly Ghost of the Vir - gin Ma - ry, And was made man,

And was cru - - ci - fi - ed al - so for___ us un - der Pon - tius Pi - late.


He suf - fer - ed and was bu - - - ri - ed, And the third day he rose a - gain



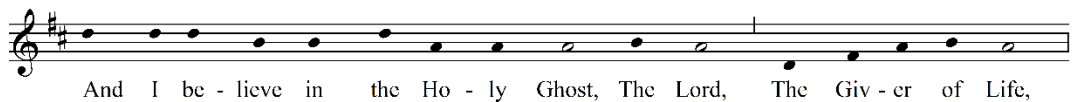
ac - cord - ing to the Scrip - tures, And as - cend - ed in - to hea - - - ven,



And sit - teth on the right hand of the Fath - er. And he shall come a - gain with glo - ry



to judge both the quick and the dead: Whose king - dom shall have no end.



And I be - lieve in the Ho - ly Ghost, The Lord, The Giv - er of Life,



Who pro - ceed - eth from the Fath - er and the Son, Who with the Fath - er and the Son



to - geth - er is wor - ship - ped and glo - ri - fi - ed, Who spake by the Pro - - phets.



And I be - lieve One, Ho - ly, Cath - o - lic, and A - po - sto - lic Church.



I ac - know - ledge one Bap - tism for the re - mis - sion of sins. And I look for



the Re - sur - rec - tion of the dead, And the Life of the world to come.



A - - - - - men.

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Brethren, you know the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, that, though he was rich, yet for your sakes he became poor, that you through his poverty might become rich.

The People remain standing for the hymn.

OFFERTORY HYMN 733

Once in royal David's city

- 1 Once in royal David's city
Stood a lowly cattle shed,
Where a mother laid her baby
In a manger for his bed:
Mary was that mother mild,
Jesus Christ her little Child.
- 2 He came down to earth from heaven
Who is God and Lord of all,
And his shelter was a stable,
And his cradle was a stall;
With the poor and mean and lowly,
Lived on earth our Saviour holy.
- 3 And through all his wondrous childhood
Day by day like us he grew,
He was little, weak and helpless,
Tears and smiles like us he knew;
And he feeleth for our sadness,
And he shareth in our gladness.
- 4 And our eyes at last shall see him,
Through his own redeeming love,
For that Child so dear and gentle,
Is our Lord in heaven above;
And he leads his children on
To the place where he is gone.

5 Not in that poor lowly stable,
With the oxen standing by,
We shall see him; but in heaven,
Set at God's right hand on high,
Where like stars his children crowned,
All in white shall wait around.

IRBY
H.J. Gauntlett (1805-1876)

Mrs. C. F. Alexander (1841-1895)

The People stand as the thurifer approaches for the censuring.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

Blessed be thou, Lord God of Israel, for ever and ever. All that is in the heaven and in the earth is thine. All things come of thee, and of thine own have we given thee. **Amen.**

The People kneel.

INTERCESSIONS

Celebrant: Sisters and brothers in Christ, with joyous hearts and in communion with the Holy Catholic Church, let us offer up our prayers to Almighty God.

Intercessor: I bid your prayers for the church universal throughout the world; for Andrew our bishop, for Kevin and Riscylla his suffragans, for _____ according to the Anglican cycle of prayer, for _____ according to the Diocesan cycle of prayer, and for _____ according to the Parish cycle of prayer, and for all who serve and minister to God's people. (*Silence.*)

<i>Intercessor</i>	<i>People</i>
	
Lord, in thy mer - cy, we be - seech thee, hear our prayer.	

Intercessor: I bid your prayers for Charles, King of Canada, and for all in civil authority under him in our country, province, and city. May God guide them in the ways of justice and peace; that all may honour one another and serve the common good. (*Silence.*)

Lord, in thy mercy,
We beseech thee, hear our prayer.

Intercessor: I bid your prayers for the world, for those places affected by war, conflict, calamity, or disaster, especially for Israel, Palestine, Ukraine and Sudan, and all other places we now name, silently or aloud. May God grant us the spirit of respect and forbearance for all nations and peoples. (*Silence.*)

Lord, in thy mercy,

We beseech thee, hear our prayer.

Intercessor: I bid your prayers for all who serve the needs of others in our community, for the volunteers and guests of the Friday Food Ministry, and for all those who labour in and use shelters, drop-in programs, foodbanks, and other social services. May God aid us to love him with all our hearts, souls, minds, and strength, and to love our neighbours as ourselves. (*Silence.*)

Lord, in thy mercy,

We beseech thee, hear our prayer.

Intercessor: I bid your prayers for God's blessings upon all people, giving thanks to God for the people, neighbours, and friends of this parish, and especially for all those present in person or via livestream, and for newcomers and visitors this morning, both near and far. [We give thanks especially on this day for _____.] And for all other thanksgivings we now name, silently or aloud _____. May God's abiding presence be with us always, that we may be a blessing to all people. (*Silence.*)

Lord, in thy mercy,

We beseech thee, hear our prayer.

Intercessor: I bid your prayers for all those in need, for the sick_____, and for all those suffering in mind, body, or estate; for elders, for prisoners, for refugees and migrants, for the oppressed, for those who mourn, and for all others for whom our prayers are asked_____. May God grant that they will be comforted by the ever-present love of our Lord. (*Silence.*)

Lord, in thy mercy,

We beseech thee, hear our prayer.

Intercessor: I bid your prayers for the souls of the departed, especially _____ who have died in recent days, and those whose year's mind is at this time _____, that they may share with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed Thomas, and all the saints in God's eternal kingdom. May God grant that their souls, and the souls of all the faithful departed, rest in peace and rise in glory. (*Silence.*)

Lord, in thy mercy,
We beseech thee, hear our prayer.

Celebrant: Grant that all people may hear together the song of joy, and find their homes in the garden of justice and hope, that we may experience the fullness of life, which is thy will for all, in the coming of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

INVITATION, CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Ye that do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbours, and intend to lead the new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways: Draw near with faith, and take this holy Sacrament to your comfort; and make your humble confession to Almighty God, meekly kneeling upon your knees.

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all men: We acknowledge and confess our manifold sins and wickedness, Which we from time to time most grievously have committed, By thought, word, and deed, Against thy Divine Majesty. We do earnestly repent, And are heartily sorry for these our misdoings. Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; For thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, Forgive us all that is past; And grant that we may ever hereafter Serve and please thee In newness of life, To the honour and glory of thy Name; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Celebrant alone stands to impart the Absolution.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all them that with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him: Have mercy upon you; pardon and deliver you from all your sins; confirm and strengthen you in all goodness; and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The People remain kneeling.

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

Celebrant *People*



The Lord be with you; And with thy spirit.

Celebrant *People*



Lift up your hearts; We lift them up unto the Lord.

Celebrant *People*



Let us give thanks unto our Lord God; It is meet and right so to do.

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God, Creator and Preserver of all things.

Because thou didst give Jesus Christ thine only Son to be born as at this time for us; who, by the operation of the Holy Spirit, was made very man of the substance of the Virgin Mary his mother; and that without spot of sin, to make us clean from all sin.

Therefore with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee and saying:

The Choir alone sings:

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS

Holy, Holy, Holy,
Lord God of Hosts:
Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.
Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.
✠ Blessed is he that cometh
in the Name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Sanctus, Sanctus, Sanctus,
Dominus Deus Sabaoth:
Pleni sunt caeli et terra gloria tua.
Hosanna in excelsis.
✠ Benedictus qui venit
in nomine Domini.
Hosanna in excelsis.

The Celebrant continues,

Blessing and glory and thanksgiving be unto thee Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of thy tender mercy didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the Cross for our redemption; who made there, by his one oblation of himself once offered, a full, perfect, and sufficient sacrifice, oblation, and satisfaction, for the sins of the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memorial of that his precious death, until his coming again.

Hear us, O merciful Father, we most humbly beseech thee; and grant that we receiving these thy creatures of bread and wine, according to thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood; who, in the same night that he was betrayed, took Bread; and, when he had given thanks, he brake it; and gave it to his disciples, saying, Take, eat; this is my Body which is given for you: Do this in remembrance of me.

Likewise after supper he took the Cup; and, when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, Drink ye all, of this; for this is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the remission of sins: Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me.

Wherefore, O Father, Lord of heaven and earth, we thy humble servants, with all thy holy Church, remembering the precious death of thy beloved Son, his mighty resurrection, and glorious ascension, and looking for his coming again in glory, do make before thee, in this sacrament of the holy Bread of eternal life and the Cup of everlasting salvation, the memorial which he hath commanded; And we entirely desire thy fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, most humbly beseeching thee to grant, that by the merits and death of thy Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his blood, we and all thy whole Church may obtain remission of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion; And we pray that by the power of thy Holy Spirit, all we who are partakers of this holy Communion may be fulfilled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; through Jesus Christ our Lord, by whom and with whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory be unto thee,

The musical notation is on a single staff with a treble clef and a key signature of two flats (B-flat and E-flat). The tempo is marked 'Moderato'. The notation is divided into two parts: 'Celebrant' and 'People'. The 'Celebrant' part consists of a series of quarter notes: O, Fa, ther, al, might, ty, world, with, out, followed by a half note 'end.'. The 'People' part consists of a half note 'A' followed by a half note 'men.'. There are horizontal lines under the lyrics 'out' and 'men.'.

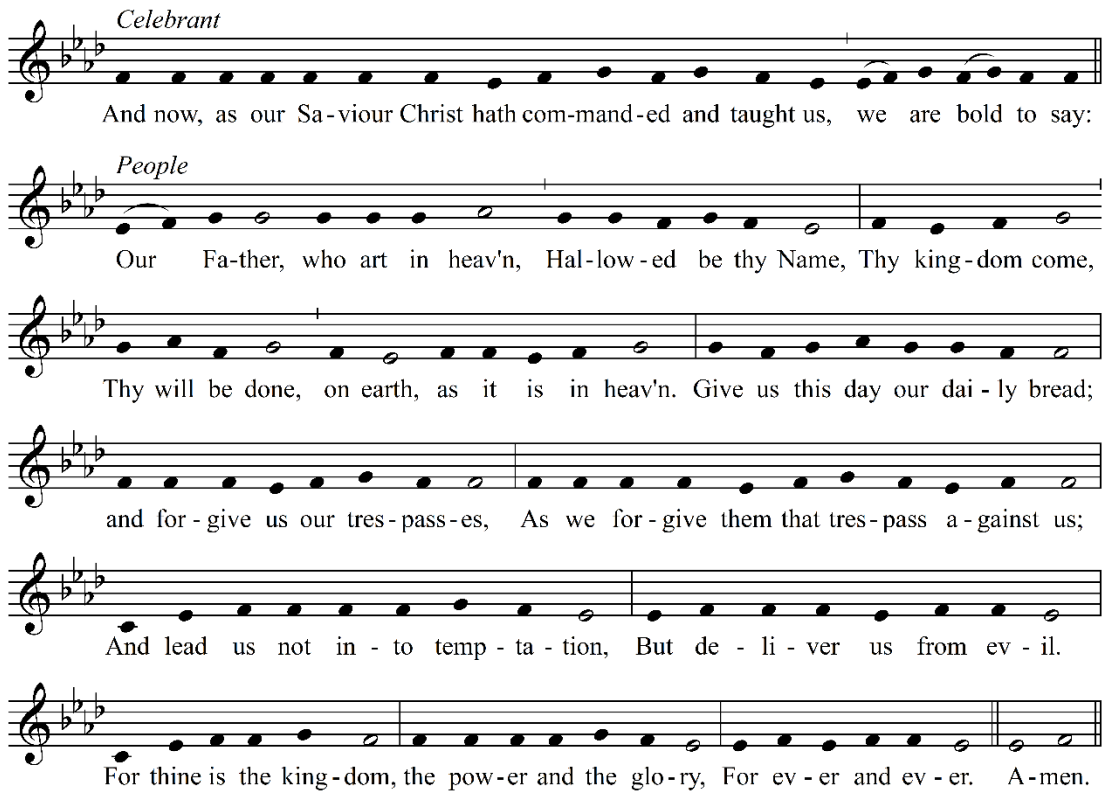
Celebrant *People*

O Fa - ther al - might - ty, world with - out — end. A - men. —

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Music by John Merbecke

Celebrant



And now, as our Sa-viour Christ hath com-mand-ed and taught us, we are bold to say:

People

Our Fa-ther, who art in heav'n, Hal-low-ed be thy Name, Thy king-dom come,

Thy will be done, on earth, as it is in heav'n. Give us this day our dai-ly bread;

and for-give us our tres-pass-es, As we for-give them that tres-pass a-gainst us;

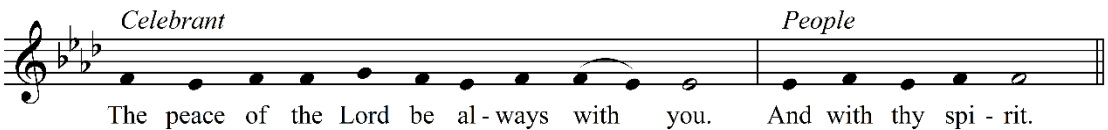
And lead us not in-to temp-ta-tion, But de-li-ver us from ev-il.

For thine is the king-dom, the pow-er and the glo-ry, For ev-er and ev-er. A-men.

FRACTION & PEACE

A period of silence is kept. The consecrated Bread is broken.

Celebrant



People

The peace of the Lord be al-ways with you. And with thy spi-rit.

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

All who intend to receive Holy Communion pray together:

We do not presume
to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, Trusting in our own righteousness,
But in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy So much as to gather
up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord, Whose property is
always to have mercy: Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, So to eat the Flesh of
thy dear Son Jesus Christ, And to drink his Blood, That our sinful bodies may
be made clean by his Body, And our souls washed through his most precious
Blood, And that we may evermore dwell in him, And he in us. Amen.

The Choir alone sings:

AGNUS DEI

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.	Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.	Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, miserere nobis.
O Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us thy peace.	Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi, dona nobis pacem.

The Celebrant turns to face the People and says,

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Behold the Lamb of God; behold him that taketh away the sin of the world.
**Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldst come under my roof, but speak the
word only, and my soul shall be healed.**

COMMUNION INSTRUCTIONS

*All baptized Christians are warmly invited to receive Communion as directed by the
Sidespeople. Please receive the host (bread) on the right palm of the hand (supported
underneath by the left palm). To receive the cup, gently guide with your hand the base of the
chalice. Please refrain from intinction (dipping the host into the cup), as diocesan policy does
not allow us to do so.*

Low gluten communion hosts are available upon request. When you approach for communion indicate to the priest that you require a low gluten host.

If you have not been baptized or are not receiving communion, please cross your arms over your chest in the shape of an X to receive a blessing.

If you wish to inquire about baptism for yourself or your child, we would love to speak with you!

COMMUNION DEVOTIONS

An Act of Spiritual Communion, which may be prayed silently by those not receiving:

My Jesus, I believe that thou art truly present in the Holy Sacrament. And since I cannot now receive thee sacramentally, I beseech thee to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself unto thee, and embrace thee with all the affections of my soul. Let me never be separated from thee. Let me live and die in thy love. Amen.

ANIMA CHRISTI

The following devotion may be prayed silently by communicants and non-communicants.

Soul of Christ, sanctify me.

Body of Christ, save me.

Blood of Christ, inebriate me.

Water from the side of Christ, wash me.

Passion of Christ, strengthen me.

O good Jesu, hear me.

Within thy wounds hide me.

Suffer me not to be separated from thee.

From the malicious enemy defend me.

In the hour of my death call me.

And bid me come to thee,

That with thy saints I may praise thee,

For ever and ever. Amen.

MOTET

‘In the bleak mid-winter,’ Gustav Holst (1874-1934)

In the bleak mid-winter frosty wind made moan, earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, in the bleak mid-winter long ago. Heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain; heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign; in the bleak mid-winter a stable place sufficed the Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ. Angels and archangels may have gathered there; cherubim and seraphim thronged the air; but his mother only, in her maiden bliss, worshipped the beloved with a kiss. What can I give him, poor as I am? if I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb, if I were a wise man I would do my part, yet what I can I give him, give my heart.

Christina Rossetti (1830-94)

*The People may sit or kneel for the hymn.***COMMUNION HYMN 736**

See amid the winter’s snow

1 See amid the winter’s snow,
Born for us on earth below;
See the tender Lamb appears,
Promised from eternal years.

Refrain:

Hail, thou ever-blessed morn;
Hail, redemption’s happy dawn;
Sing through all Jerusalem,
Christ is born in Bethlehem.

2 Lo, within a manger lies –
He who built the starry skies;
He who throned in height sublime
Sits amid the cherubim!

Refrain

3 Say, ye holy shepherds, say
What your joyful news today;
Wherefore have ye left your sheep
On the lonely mountain steep?

Refrain

4 ‘As we watched at dead of night,
Lo, we saw a wondrous light;
Angels singing “Peace on Earth”
Told us of the Saviour’s birth.’

Refrain

5 Sacred Infant, all Divine,
What a tender love was thine,
Thus to come from highest bliss
Down to such a world as this!

Refrain

6 Teach, O teach us, Holy Child,
By thy face so meek and mild,
Teach us to resemble thee,
In thy sweet humility.

Refrain

The People kneel.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Almighty God, whose blessed Son didst humble himself to share our birth and our death, and who ever permittest us in these holy mysteries to draw near with gladness unto his holy Nativity: Bring us with the shepherds and wise men to kneel before his lowly cradle, that we may come to sing with thine angels his glorious praises in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who liveth, and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

BLESSING

The peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord: And the blessing of God Almighty, the ✠ Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

The People stand.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

CONCLUDING HYMN 741

Good Christian men, rejoice

- 1 Good Christian men, rejoice,
With heart and soul and voice,
Give ye heed to what we say:
News! News!
Jesus Christ is born today;
Ox and ass before him bow,
And he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today!
Christ is born today!

2 Good Christian men, rejoice,
With heart and soul and voice,
Now ye hear of endless bliss:
Joy! Joy!
Jesus Christ was born for this!
He hath oped the heavenly door,
And man is blessed evermore.
Christ was born for this!
Christ was born for this!

3 Good Christian men, rejoice,
With heart and soul and voice,
Now ye need not fear the grave:
Peace! Peace!
Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all,
To gain his everlasting hall;
Christ was born to save,
Christ was born to save.

IN DULCI JUBILO
German Melody, 14th cent.

Rev. John M. Neale, 1853

Coffee Hour follows this service in the Parish Hall.

Note – There is no Evensong today.

The Epiphany of Our Lord Procession and High Mass will be on Saturday, January 6, 2024 at 11:00 am.

Sunday, January 7, 2024 is the Feast of the Baptism of Our Lord. The Services will be as follows: 7:30 am Mattins; 8:00 am Low Mass; 9:30 am Sung Mass (BAS) and 11:00 am High Mass (BCP). At 5:00 pm there will be A Procession with Epiphany Carols during the course of Evensong & Benediction, followed by a small reception.

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