

Saint Thomas's Church
The Fourth Sunday in Advent
Sunday, December 18, 2022
High Mass at 11 o'clock



The Dream of Saint Joseph, Philippe de Champaigne, 1642
The National Gallery, London

Saint Thomas's Anglican Church
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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. 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.



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.**

*Flowers and the Decorations in the Church
on Christmas Day are the gift of the congregation.
Please use the envelopes provided. You may make a thanksgiving or memorial.*

Celebrant: Fr. Humphrey
Deacon & Homilist: Fr. Shire
Reader: Willem Hart
Interim Director of Music & Organist: Elizabeth Anderson

MUSIC OF THE MASS: *Missa XIV, Jesu Redemptor*

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

ORGAN VOLUNTARY: Ave Maria, *Victor Togni*

The People stand as the choir enters the church during the prelude, sitting again when the choir sits.

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

AN ADVENT PROSE

Rorate Coeli

Mode i

Antiphon *Cantor*

Drop down, ye heav'ns from a - bove, *

All

and let the skies pour down righ - teous - ness.

Verse 1

Lower Voices

Be not wroth ve - ry sore, O Lord, nei - ther re - mem - ber
in - i - qui - ty for ev - er: thy ho - ly ci - ties are a wild - er - ness,
Zi - on is a wil - der - ness. Je - ru - sa - lem a de - so - la - tion:

our ho - ly and our beau - ti - ful house, — where our fa - thers prais - ed thee.

Antiphon
All

Drop down, ye heav'ns from — a - bove, —

and let the skies pour — down righ - teous - ness.

Verse 2
Upper Voices

We have sin - ned and are as an un - clean thing,

and we all do fade as a leaf: and our in - i - qui - ties, like the wind,

have tak - en us — a - way; thou hast hid thy face from us:

and hast con - sum - ed us, be - cause of our — in - i - qui - ties.

Antiphon
All

Drop down, ye heav'ns from — a - bove, —

and let the skies pour — down righ - teous - ness.

Verse 3*Lower Voices*

Ye are my wit - ness - es, saith the Lord, and my ser - vant



whom I have chos - en: that ye may know me and be - lieve me;



I, ev - en I, am the__ Lord, and be - side me there is__ no Sa - viour:



and there is none that can de - liv - er out_____ of my__ hand.

Antiphon*All*

Drop down, ye heav'ns from__ a - bove,__



and let the skies pour__ down righ - teous - ness.

Verse 4*Upper Voices*

Com - fort ye, com - fort ye my peo - ple, my sal - va - tion



shall not tar - ry: I have blot - ted out as__ a thick cloud



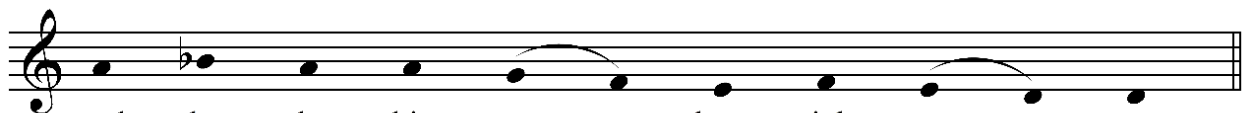
thy trans - gres - sions: Fear not, for I will save thee: for I__ am



the Lord thy God, the Ho - ly One of Is - ra - el, thy Re - deem - er.

Antiphon*All*

Drop down, ye heav'ns from__ a - bove,__



and let the skies pour__ down righ - teous - ness.

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 DECALOGUE

Responses by Pelham Humfrey (1647-1674)

The People still kneeling, the Decalogue is sung by the Celebrant and Choir.

Celebrant: God spake these words and said: I am the Lord thy God who brought thee out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of bondage. Thou shalt have none other gods but me.

Choir: Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Celebrant: Thou shalt not make to thyself any graven image, nor the likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or in the earth beneath, or in the water under the earth. Thou shalt not bow down to them, nor worship them.

Choir: Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Celebrant: Thou shalt not take the Name of the Lord thy God in vain.

Choir: Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Celebrant: Remember that thou keep holy the Sabbath day.

Choir: Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Celebrant: Honour thy father and thy mother.

Choir: Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Celebrant: Thou shalt do no murder.

Choir: Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Celebrant: Thou shalt not commit adultery.

Choir: Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Celebrant: Thou shalt not steal.

Choir: Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Celebrant: Thou shalt not bear false witness against thy neighbour.

Choir: Lord, have mercy upon us, and incline our hearts to keep this law.

Celebrant: Thou shalt not covet.

Choir: Lord, have mercy upon us, and write all these thy laws in our hearts, we beseech thee.

The Choir alone sings the Kyrie, the People kneeling.

KYRIE ELEISON

Lord, have mercy upon us. Kyrie Eleison.
Christ, have mercy upon us. Christe Eleison.
Lord, have mercy upon us. Kyrie Eleison.

The People remain kneeling for the Collects.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

Let us pray.

Raise up, we beseech thee, O Lord, thy power, and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness, we are sore let and hindered in running the race that is set before us, thy bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; who with the Father and the Holy Spirit liveth and reigneth, one God, world without end. **Amen.**

COLLECT OF ADVENT

Almighty God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious Majesty, to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, now and ever. **Amen.**

The People sit.

FIRST LESSON: Isaiah 7.10-16

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

Again the Lord spoke to Ahaz, saying, Ask a sign of the Lord your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the Lord to the test. Then Isaiah said: 'Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The People remain seated as the Choir sings the psalm.

PSALM 80.1-7, 17-19

Qui regis Israel
IV. 4.



- Cantor* 1 HEAR, O thou Shepherd of Israel, thou that ledest Joseph **like** a flock :
People show thyself also, thou that sittest **up-on** the cher-u²bim.
2 Before Ephraim, Benjamin, **and** Man-as-seh : stir up thy strength, **and**
come and help us.
Cantor 3 Turn us a-**gain**, O God : show the light of thy countenance, **and** we shall
be whole.
People 4 O Lord **God** of hosts : how long wilt thou be angry with thy **peo-ple** that
pray-eth?
Cantor 5 Thou hast fed them with the **bread** of tears : and hast given them plen-
teous-ness of tears to[^]drink.
People 6 Thou makest us a very strife un-**to** our neigh-bours : and our ene-**mies**
laugh us to scorn.
Cantor 7 Turn us again, O **God** of hosts : show the light of thy countenance, **and**
we shall be whole.
People 17 Let thy hand be upon the man **of** thy right hand : and upon the son of
man, whom thou madest so **strong** for thine own self.

Cantor 18 And so shall we not go **back** from thee : O let us live, and we will **call** up-
on thy Name.
People 19 Turn us again, O Lord **God** of hosts : show the light of thy countenance,
and we shall be whole.

THE EPISTLE: Romans 1.1-7

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

Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The People stand.

SEQUENCE HYMN 192 - The God whom earth, and sea, and sky

- 1 The God whom earth, and sea, and sky
Adore, and laud, and magnify,
Whose might they own, whose praise they swell,
In Mary's womb vouchsafed to dwell.
- 2 The Lord whom sun and moon obey,
Whom all things serve from day to day,
Was by the Holy Ghost conceived
Of her who through his grace believed.
- 3 How blest that Mother, in whose shrine
The world's Creator, Lord Divine,
Whose hand contains the earth and sky,
Once deigned, as in his ark, to lie;

4 Blest in the message Gabriel brought,
Blest by the work the Spirit wrought;
From whom the great Desire of earth
Took human flesh and human birth.

5 O Lord, the Virgin-born, to thee
Eternal praise and glory be,
Whom with the Father we adore
And Holy Ghost for evermore. Alleluia.

S^t AMBROSE
La Feillée's Plain Chant 1808

Tr. from the 9th c. Latin by Rev. J.M. Neale

HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 1.18-25

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

The Holy Gospel is written in the first chapter of the Gospel according to Saint Matthew, beginning at the eighteenth verse.

Glory be to thee, O Lord.

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, 'Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins.' All this took place to fulfil what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: 'Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel', which means, 'God is with us.' When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

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

Merbecke

I be-lieve in one God: The Fa-ther Al-migh-ty, Ma-ker of hea-ven and earth,
and of all things vi-si-ble and in-vi-si-ble:
And in one Lord Je-sus Christ, the on-ly be-got-ten Son of God,
Be-got-ten of the Fa-ther 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 Fa-ther;
Through whom all things were made. Who for us men and for our sal-va-tion
came down from Heaven,
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-also for us un-der Pon-tius Pi-late.
He suf-fer-red 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 heaven,



And sit - teth on the right hand of the Fa - ther,



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 Fa - ther and the Son,




Who with the Fa - ther and the Son to - geth - er is wor - ship - ped and glo - ri - fied,



Who spake by the Pro - phets. And I be - lieve One, Ho - ly, Ca - tho - lic, and A - pos - to - 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

As we have the opportunity, let us do good unto all men; and especially unto them that are of the household of faith.

The People remain standing for the hymn.

OFFERTORY HYMN - O Come, O come, Emmanuel *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*

All 1 O Come, O come, Emmanuel,
And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here,
Until the Son of God appear.
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

Upper 2 O come, thou Rod of Jesse, free
Voices Thine own from Satan's tyranny;
From depths of hell thy people save,
And give them victory o'er the grave.
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

All 3 O come, thou Day-spring, come and cheer
Our spirits by thine Advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight.
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

Lower 4 O come, thou Key of David, come,
Voices And open wide our heavenly home;
Make safe the way that leads on high,
And close the path to misery.
*Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.*

All 5 O come, O come, thou Lord of might,
Who to thy tribes, from Sinai's height,
In ancient time didst give the law
In cloud, and majesty, and awe.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel.

VENI EMMANUEL
Melody adapted from a French Missal
by Thomas Helmore 1811-90

From the 12th cent. Latin
Tr. J.M. Neale 1818-66

The People remain standing 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. The celebrant turns to face the people, and bids the intercessions.

INTERCESSIONS

Celebrant: Dear friends in Christ, let us pray for the Church and for the world.

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

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

Intercessor: I bid your prayers for the King and for all in civil authority 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 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; for newcomers and visitors this morning, both near and far; and for all other thanksgivings we now name, silently or aloud _____ [We give thanks especially for_____.] 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 all those suffering in mind, body, or estate due to the ongoing pandemic; for victims of warfare and violence; 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, may rest in peace and rise in glory. (*Silence.*)

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

Celebrant: God of promise, thou hast given unto us a sign of thy love through the gift of Jesus Christ, our Saviour, who was promised from ages past.
We offer unto thee our prayers for thy world, confident of thy care and mercy for all creation. All this we ask through 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

| | |
|---|---------------|
| <i>Celebrant</i> | <i>People</i> |
| | |
| The__ Lord be__ with__ you; And__ with thy__ spi - rit. | |
| <i>Celebrant</i> | <i>People</i> |
| | |
| Lift__ up your hearts; We lift__ them up un - to__ the Lord.__ | |
| <i>Celebrant</i> | <i>People</i> |
| | |
| Let us__ give__ thanks un - to__ 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; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who in the fullness of time came among us in our flesh and opened to us the way of salvation. Now we watch for the day when he will come again in power and great triumph to judge this world; that we, without shame or fear, may rejoice to behold his appearing.

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,

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

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 sins
of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins
of the world, have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins
of the world, grant us thy peace.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.

Agnus Dei, qui tollis peccata mundi,
miserere nobis.

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 sins of the world.

Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldest 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 are not receiving from the cup, please pause to reverence it with a bow before returning to your pew.

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.

МОТЕТ: Bogoróditse Dévo, Sergei Rachmaninoff (1873-1943)

Богородице Дево, радуйся, благодатная Марие, Господь с тобою. Благословена ты в женах, и благословен плод чрева твоего, яко Спаса родила еси душ наших.

Bogoróditse Dévo, raduysiá, Blagodátnaya Mariye, Ghospód s Tobóyu Blagoslovénna Ti v zhenáh, i blagoslovén Plod chréva Tvoyegó, yáko Spása rodilá yesi dush náshih.

Rejoice, O Virgin Theotokos, Mary full of grace, the Lord is with Thee. Blessed art Thou among women, and blessed is the Fruit of Thy womb, for Thou hast borne the Saviour of our souls.

The People may sit or kneel for the hymn.

COMMUNION HYMN 229 – Let all mortal flesh keep silence

All 1 Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly-minded, for with blessing in his hand,
Christ our God to us approacheth, our full homage to demand.

Upper 2 King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood,
Voices Lord of lords, in human vesture, in the Body and the Blood,
He will give to all the faithful his own Self for heavenly Food.

Lower 3 Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way,
Voices As the Light of light descendeth from the realms of endless day,
That the powers of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away.

All 4 At his feet the six-winged Seraph; Cherubim with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to the Presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry,
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Lord most high.

PICARDY
French Traditional Carol

From the Liturgy of St James (c. 5th century)
tr Gerard Moultrie, 1829-1885

The People kneel.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee that thou dost graciously feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ; assuring us thereby of thy favour and goodness towards us; and that we are living members of his mystical body, which is the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs through hope of thy everlasting kingdom. And here we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice unto thee. And although we are unworthy, yet we beseech thee to accept this our bounden duty and service, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offences; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end.

Amen.

The People sit.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT

The People kneel.

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 - Gracious Lady, you are blest

All 1 Gracious Lady, you are blest with God's favour;
In your womb all hopes shall rest - this world's Saviour;
He shall save the world from sin, as the kingdom's ushered in.
Hail Mary, Hail Mary, Hail Mary.

Upper 2 Can it be I am God's choice? (Lowly maiden)?
Voices How can God's Word use my voice to proclaim Him?
Can the great God stoop to me: that the world His grace may see?
Hail Mary, Hail Mary, Hail Mary.

Lower 3 Blessed Mother you shall be; God's own dwelling;
Voices You, the rose whose sanctity, sweetly smelling
Shall create the space on earth, for God's Son to come to birth.
Hail Mary, Hail Mary, Hail Mary.

Upper 4 Let it be then as you say; God me raises!
Voices Let me now and every day, learn His praises.
May the 'Yes' that I have giv'n be a pathway into heav'n.
Hail Mary, Hail Mary, Hail Mary.

Lower 5 Gracious Lady, your Amen is your blessing;
Voices Your obedience, now as then love confessing.
And that Love will you sustain, through the time of trial and pain.
Hail Mary, Hail Mary, Hail Mary.

All 6 Mary, Mother of the Lord, God once called you
To bring forth His holy Word, that enthralled you,
May I too wait patiently for God's will to form in me.
Hail Mary, Hail Mary, Hail Mary.

CHISLEHURST
Sydney Nicholson

Jeremy Davies, former Precentor, Salisbury Cathedral

The People may be seated. Please maintain an atmosphere of reverent silence during and after the Voluntary.

VOLUNTARY: Magnificat, Delphin Strungk