

Saint Thomas's Church

Christmas Day

Monday, December 25, 2023

High Mass at 11:00 am



The Nativity, Sir Edward Burne-Jones, 1888
Carnegie Museum of Art, Pittsburgh

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. 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.**

Celebrant: Fr. James Shire
Deacon & Homilist: Fr. Nathan Humphrey
Reader: Janet Nichols
Organist & Choirmaster: Elizabeth Anderson
Assistant Organist & Choirmaster: Manuel Piazza

MUSIC OF THE MASS Missa 'Corde natus ex parentis,' Healey Willan (1888-1968)

VOLUNTARY In dulci jubilo, Marcel Dupré (1886-1971)

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 75

O come, all ye faithful

- 1 O come, all ye faithful,
Joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him
Born the King of angels:
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him, Christ the Lord!
- 2 God of God,
Light of Light,
Lo! he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
Very God,
Begotten, not created:
O come, let us adore him.

STATION AT THE CRIB



The Word was made flesh and dwelt among us.

And we beheld his glory.

O God the Son, highest and holiest, who didst humble thyself to share our birth and our death: Bring us with the shepherds and the wise men to kneel before thy lowly cradle, that we may come to sing with thine angels thy glorious praises in heaven; where with the Father and the Holy Spirit thou livest and reignest God world without end. **Amen.**

3 Sing, choirs of Angels,
Sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above,
Glory to God
In the Highest:
O come, let us adore him.

4 See how the Shepherds,
Summoned to his cradle,
Leaving their flocks, draw nigh with lowly fear;
We too will thither
Bend our joyful footsteps:
O come, let us adore him.

5 Yea, Lord, we greet thee,
Born this happy morning,
Jesu, to thee be glory given;
Word of the Father,
Now in flesh appearing:
O come, let us adore him.

ADESTE FIDELES

Melody probably by J.F. Wade 1711-86

Latin 18th century

Tr Frederick Oakeley 1802-80, and others

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 alone sings the Kyrie, the People kneeling.

KYRIE ELEISON

Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Kyrie Eleison.
Christe Eleison.
Kyrie Eleison.

The People stand.

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 - migh - ty.
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 52.7-10

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

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of him that bringeth good tidings, that publisheth peace; that bringeth good tidings of good, that publisheth salvation; that saith unto Zion, Thy God reigneth! Thy watchmen shall lift up the voice; with the voice together shall they sing: for they shall see eye to eye, when the Lord shall bring again Zion. Break forth into joy, sing together, ye waste places of Jerusalem: for the Lord hath comforted his people, he hath redeemed Jerusalem. The Lord hath made bare his holy arm in the eyes of all the nations; and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The People remain seated for the Psalm.

PSALM 98.1-6

Cantate Domino

I. 2.



- Cantor* 1 O SING unto the Lord a **new** song :
People for he hath done **mar-vel-löus** thîngs.
- 2 With his own right hand, and with his **ho-ly** arm :
hath he gotten him-**self** the vîc-to-ry.
- Cantor* 3 The Lord hath declar-ed his sal-**va**-tion :
his righteousnes hath he openly shown in the sight **of** the nâ-tiöns.
- People* 4 He hath remember-ed his mercy and his faithfulness toward the
house of Is-**ra**-el :
and all the ends of the world have seen the salva-**tion** of öur Göd.
- Cantor* 5 Show yourselves joyful unto the Lord, all **ye** lands :
sing, re-**joice**, and gîve thänks.
- People* 6 Praise the Lord upon **the** harp :
sing to the harp with a psalm **of** thanks-gîv-ing.

The Epistle is written in the first chapter of the epistle to the Hebrews, beginning at the first verse.

God, who at sundry times and in divers manners spake in time past unto the fathers by the prophets, Hath in these last days spoken unto us by his Son, whom he hath appointed heir of all things, by whom also he made the worlds; Who being the brightness of his glory, and the express image of his person, and upholding all things by the word of his power, when he had by himself purged our sins, sat down on the right hand of the Majesty on high: Being made so much better than the angels, as he hath by inheritance obtained a more excellent name than they. For unto which of the angels said he at any time, Thou art my Son, this day have I begotten thee? And again, I will be to him a Father, and he shall be to me a Son? And again, when he bringeth in the first begotten into the world, he saith, And let all the angels of God worship him. And of the angels he saith, Who maketh his angels spirits, and his ministers a flame of fire. But unto the Son he saith, Thy throne, O God, is for ever and ever: a sceptre of righteousness is the sceptre of thy kingdom. Thou hast loved righteousness, and hated iniquity; therefore God, even thy God, hath anointed thee with the oil of gladness above thy fellows. And, Thou, Lord, in the beginning hast laid the foundation of the earth; and the heavens are the works of thine hands: They shall perish; but thou remainest; and they all shall wax old as doth a garment; And as a vesture shalt thou fold them up, and they shall be changed: but thou art the same, and thy years shall not fail.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

SEQUENCE HYMN 823

From east to west

PUER NOBIS NASCITUR

Composed or adapted by
M Praetorius 1572-1621

The image shows three staves of musical notation in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is written on a treble clef. The lyrics are: "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." The first staff ends with a double bar line. The second staff continues the melody. The third staff ends with a double bar line and a fermata over the final note.

*Lower
Voices* 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.

All 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.

*Upper
Voices* 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.

All 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.

All 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.

All 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 HOLY GOSPEL

John 1.1-14

The Lord be with you.

And with thy spirit.

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

Glory be to thee O Lord.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. The same was in the beginning with God. All things were made by him; and without him was not any thing made that was made. In him was life; and the life was the light of men. And the light shineth in darkness; and the darkness comprehended it not.

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. The same came for a witness, to bear witness of the Light, that all men through him might believe. He was not that Light, but was sent to bear witness of that Light. That was the true Light, which lighteth every man that cometh into the world.

He was in the world, and the world was made by him, and the world knew him not. He came unto his own, and his own received him not. But as many as received him, to them gave he power to become the sons of God, even to them that believe on his name: Which were born, not of blood, nor of the will of the flesh, nor of the will of man, but of God.

And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, (and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father,) full of grace and truth.

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

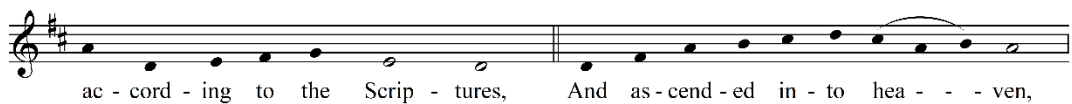
the ___ Ho - ly Ghost of the Vir - gin Ma - ry, And was made man,



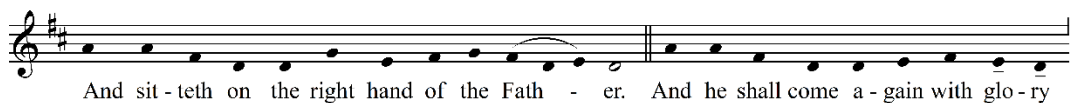
And was cru - - ci - fi - ed al - so for__ us un - der Pon - tius Pi - late.



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



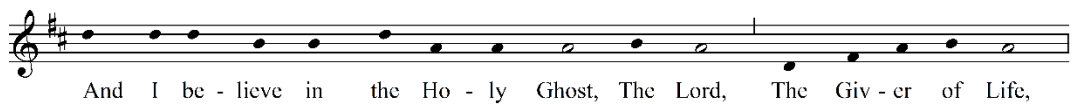
ac - cord - ing to the Scrip - tures, And as - cend - ed in - to hea - - - ven,



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.



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 82

O little town of Bethlehem

All 1 O little town of Bethlehem
How still we see thee lie;
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep
The silent stars go by:
Yet in thy dark streets shineth
The everlasting Light;
The hopes and fears of all the years
Are met in thee to-night.

All 2 For Christ is born of Mary;
And gathered all above,
While mortals sleep, the angels keep
Their watch of wondering love.
O morning stars, together
Proclaim the holy birth,
And praises sing to God the King,
And peace to men on earth!

Choir 3 How silently, how silently,
The wondrous gift is given!
So God imparts to human hearts
The blessings of his heaven:
No ear may hear his coming;
But in this world of sin,
Where meek souls will receive him, still
The dear Christ enters in.

All 4 O Holy Child of Bethlehem,
Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin, and enter in;
Be born in us to-day.
We hear the heavenly angels
The great glad tidings tell:
O come to us, abide with us,
Our Lord Immanuel.

FOREST GREEN
English Traditional Melody

Bishop Phillips Brooks 1868

The People stand as the thurifer approaches for the censing.

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: Let us pray to our incarnate Lord, who has brought us out of darkness and into his own marvellous light. Let us pray for the church and for the world.

Intercessor: On this holy day, Christ came among us in great humility. We pray for the Church, for Andrew our bishop, for Ryscilla and Kevin his suffragans, for _____ according to the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, for _____ according to the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, for _____ according to the parish cycle of prayer, and for all the clergy and laity who serve God's people, especially in this parish; for Justin, Archbishop of Canterbury and Linda our Primate. (*Silence.*)

The musical notation consists of a single staff with a treble clef. It is divided into two parts by a double bar line. The first part is labeled 'Intercessor' and contains the notes G4, A4, B4, and C5. The second part is labeled 'People' and contains the notes D5, E5, F5, G5, A5, B5, and C6. Below the staff, the lyrics are written: 'Lord, in thy mer - cy, we be - seech thee, hear our prayer.'

Intercessor: On this holy day, the King of Kings was born, and all the heavens adore him. We pray for the King and all in civil authority in this country, province, and city, that they may work for peace and promote the well-being of all. *(Silence.)*

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

Intercessor: On this holy day, the angels sang “on earth peace, good will toward men.” We pray for those places affected by war, conflict, calamity, or disaster, especially for Israel, Palestine, Ukraine and Sudan. May the Prince of Peace deliver us from the shadow of war and disaster. *(Silence.)*

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

Intercessor: On this holy day, the holy family found no room for them in the inn. We pray for all those who are in need and those who serve them, for guests and volunteers of the Friday Food Ministry, and for all those who use drop-in programs, shelters, and food banks. May God open and make room in our hearts to all those in need. *(Silence.)*

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

Intercessor: On this holy day, the shepherds found the Christ Child lying in a manger, and Blessed Virgin Mary and Blessed Joseph: bless our homes and families, and all those we love. We give thanks for all that God has given us, [for _____, and all] that we now name, silently or aloud _____. May we be guided by angels to God’s abundant love for us all. *(Silence.)*

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

Intercessor: On this holy day, all darkness is scattered by the light of Christ’s presence: bring comfort to all who suffer, who grieve, who are alone, who are ill, who are poor or homeless, and who are oppressed. We pray for the sick, especially for _____, and we pray for those for whom we have been asked to pray, especially for _____. *(Silence.)*

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

Intercessor: In the Word made flesh, you have joined heaven and earth. We pray for those who have died in recent days, especially _____, and for those others whose year's mind is at this time _____. Keep in safety all those who have died that they may share with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed Joseph, Blessed Thomas, and all the saints in the joys of heaven. (*Silence.*)

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

Celebrant: Grant O God that, through our prayers, our lives may radiate the presence of Christ to all who dwell on earth. For he is our Lord and God, evermore and evermore. **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.

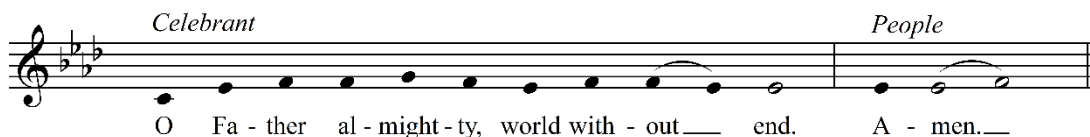
The Celebrant continues,

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 eighth notes: O, Fa, ther, al, might, ty, world, with, out, end. The 'People' part consists of a series of eighth notes: A, men.

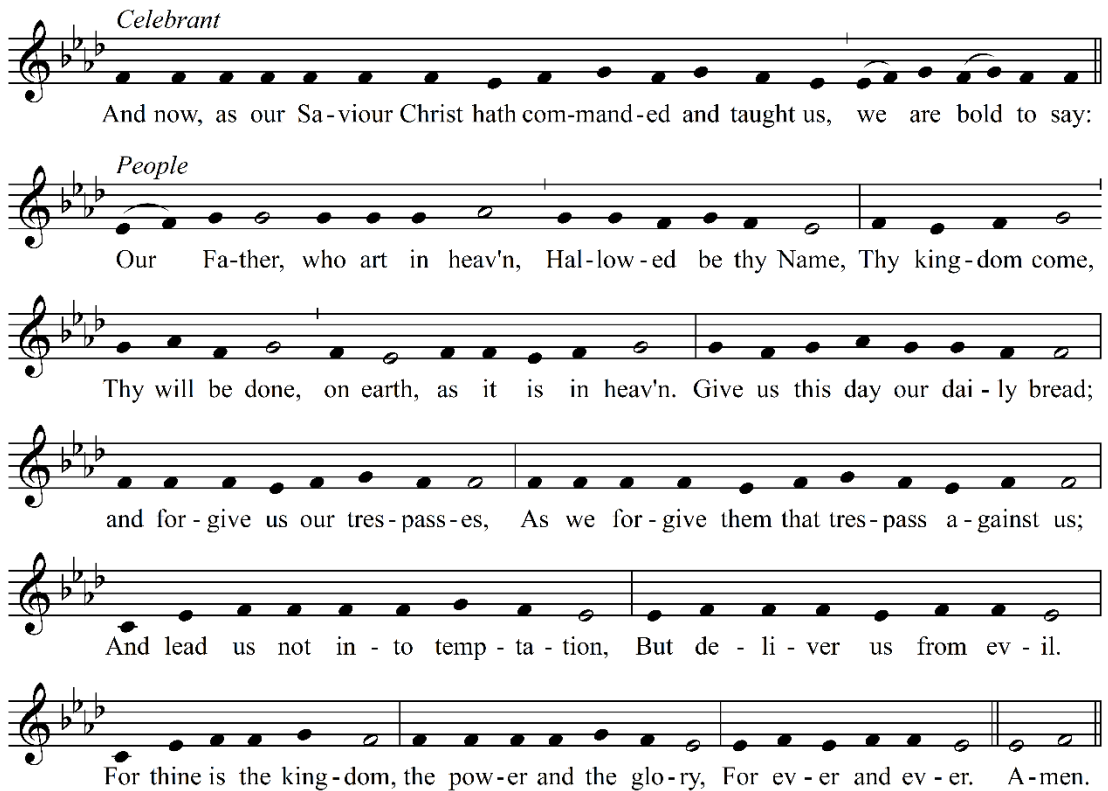
Celebrant *People*

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, Harold Darke (1888-1976)

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. Our God, Heav'n cannot hold him Nor earth sustain; Heav'n 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. Enough for him, whom cherubim Worship night and day, A breastful of milk And a mangerful of hay; Enough for him whom angels Fall down before, The ox and ass and camel Which adore. 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 81**

Angels, from the realms of glory

- 1 Angels, from the realms of glory,
Wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation's story,
Now proclaim Messiah's birth:
*Come and worship,
Worship Christ, the new-born King.*
- 2 Shepherds in the field abiding,
Watching o'er your flocks by night,
God with man is now residing,
Yonder shines the Infant Light:
*Come and worship,
Worship Christ, the new-born King.*
- 3 Sages, leave your contemplations;
Brighter visions beam afar;
Seek the great Desire of nations,
Ye have seen his natal star:
*Come and worship,
Worship Christ, the new-born King.*

4 Saints before the altar bending,
Watching long in hope and fear,
Suddenly the Lord, descending,
In his temple shall appear:
*Come and worship,
Worship Christ, the new-born King.*

5 Though an infant now we view him,
He shall fill his Father's throne,
Gather all the nations to him;
Every knee shall then bow down:
*Come and worship,
Worship Christ, the new-born King.*

*REGENT SQUARE
Henry Smart, 1867*

James Montgomery 1771-1854

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

May Christ, who by his Incarnation, gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with his light and peace. And the blessing of God Almighty, the ✠ Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be among 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 77

Hark! the Herald Angels Sing

- 1 Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King,
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled.
Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim,
'Christ is born in Bethlehem.'
*Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.*

- 2 Christ, by highest heaven adored,
Christ, the everlasting Lord,
Late in time behold him come,
Offspring of a Virgin's womb.
Veiled in flesh the Godhead see!
Hail, the Incarnate Deity!
Pleased as Man with man to dwell,
Jesus, our Emmanuel.
*Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.*

3 Hail, the heaven-born Prince of peace!
Hail, the Sun of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings,
Risen with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
Born to raise the sons of earth,
Born to give them second birth.
*Hark! the herald angels sing
Glory to the new-born King.*

*MENDELSSOHN
From a chorus by Felix Mendelssohn-Bartholdy 1809-1847*

Charles Wesley 1707-88 and others

VOLUNTARY

In dulci jubilo, BWV 729, J. S. Bach (1685-1750)

The People may be seated for the Postlude. Please maintain an atmosphere of reverent silence in the church during and after the Postlude.

Please note there will be no Evensong today.

UPCOMING SERVICES

On Sunday, December 31 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). There will be no Evensong.

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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DAILY OFFICE SCHEDULE

*Morning Prayer and Evening Prayer services generally last 15-25 minutes
and are a great way to begin and/or end the day!*

MORNING PRAYER

8:30 AM, MONDAY-FRIDAY

9:30 AM, SATURDAY

7:30 AM, SUNDAY

EVENING PRAYER

5:00 PM, MONDAY-FRIDAY

5:00 PM SUNDAY (CHORAL EVENSONG)

Choral Evensong on Sundays is followed by Eucharistic devotions.

DAILY MASS SCHEDULE

SUNDAY

LOW MASS 8:00 AM

SUNG MASS 9:30 AM

HIGH MASS 11:00 AM

WEEKDAY LOW MASS

12:15 PM, MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY

5:30 PM TUESDAY, THURSDAY

10:00 AM SATURDAY

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