Saint Thomas's Church

The First Sunday After Christmas Sunday, December 26, 2021

High Mass at 11 o'clock



Christ Among the Doctors Unknown Catalan painter, early 15th c. The Met 5th Avenue, New York City

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PROVISOS FOR IN-PERSON ATTENDANCE

1. Given recent research, cloth masks on their own, unless worn with two disposable masks, provide insufficient protection. At all times, therefore, everyone in the church must wear an N95, KN95, or an acceptable equivalent mask. If you do not have one of these qualifying masks, the minimum acceptable coverage is two disposable medical face masks properly fitted. If you do not have an acceptable mask, two disposable masks will be issued to you at the door.

2. Congregational singing is still allowed, but we strongly recommend that you do so softly, if at all. Tuneful humming, such as when we are enjoying a piece of music on the radio, is fine; we want you to enjoy the music and to participate in it, but with this new variant that is several times more contagious than others, we can't encourage anything more than gentle singing behind your mask(s).

MUSIC OF THE MASS – Mass VIII, Missa de Angelis

PRELUDE: In Dulci Jubilo, Marcel Dupré

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

The Cantor alone sings:

INTROIT: Psalm 93

- 1 The Lord is King, and hath put on glorious apparel: / the Lord hath put on his apparel, and girded himself with strength.
- 2 He hath made the round world so sure, / that it cannot be moved.
- 3 Ever since the world began hath thy throne been established: / thou art from everlasting.
- 4 The floods have lift up, O Lord, the floods have lift up their voice: / the floods lift up their waves.
- 5 Mightier than the roar of many waters, mightier than the breakers of the sea, / the Lord, who dwelleth on high, is mighty.
- 6 Thy testimonies, O Lord, are very sure: / holiness becometh thine house for ever.

GLORY be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; / As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

The Lord is King, and hath put on glorious apparel: / the Lord hath put on his apparel, and girded himself with strength.

Please 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.**

KYRIE ELEISON

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

Please stand.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO

Celebrant: Glory be to God on high,

People: and in earth peace, good will towards men. We praise thee, we bless thee, we worship thee, we glorify thee, we give thanks to thee for thy great glory, O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesu Christ; O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us. Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer. Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy; thou only art the Lord; thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost, art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

The Lord be with you. **And with thy spirit.**

Please remain standing for the Collect.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

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**.

Please be seated.

THE FIRST LESSON: 1 Samuel 2:18-20, 26

The First Lesson is written in the second chapter of the first book of the prophet Samuel, beginning at the eighteenth verse.

Samuel was ministering before the Lord, a boy girded with a linen ephod. And his mother used to make for him a little robe and take it to him each year, when she went up with her husband to offer the yearly sacrifice. Then Eli would bless Elkanah and his wife, and say, "The Lord give you children by this woman for the loan which she lent to the Lord"; so then they would return to their home. Now the boy Samuel continued to grow both in stature and in favour with the Lord and with men.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.** The people remain seated as the Cantor sings the psalm.

PSALM:148 - Laudate Dominum; Tone VII,6

- 1 O praise the Lord from the heavens: / praise him in the heights.
- 2 Praise him, all ye angels of his: / praise him, all his host.
- 3 Praise him, sun and moon: / praise him, all ye stars of light.
- 4 Praise him, all ye heavens, / and ye waters that are above the heavens.
- 5 Let them praise the Name of the Lord; / for he commanded and they were created.
- 6 He hath made them fast for ever and ever: / he hath given them a law which shall not be broken.
- 7 Praise the Lord from the earth, / ye dragons and all deeps;
- 8 Fire and hail, snow and vapour, / wind and storm, fulfilling his word;
- 9 Mountains and all hills; / fruitful trees and all cedars;
- 10 Beasts and all cattle; / creeping things and feathered fowls;
- 11 Kings of the earth, and all peoples; / princes and all judges of the world;
- 12 Young men and maidens together; / old men and children;
- 13 Let them praise the Name of the Lord; /
- for his Name only is excellent, and his glory above heaven and earth.
- 14 He shall exalt the horn of his people; all his saints shall praise him: / even the children of Israel, even the people that serveth him.

THE EPISTLE: Colossians 3:12-17

The Epistle is written in the third chapter of St Paul's epistle to the Colossians, beginning at the twelfth verse.

Put on then, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, compassion, kindness, lowliness, meekness, and patience, forbearing one another and, if one has a complaint against another, forgiving each other; as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. And above all these put on love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in the one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly, teach and admonish one another in all wisdom, and sing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs with thankfulness in your hearts to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed, do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

The Cantor sings:

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia. Alleluia. Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts; let the word of Christ dwell in you richly. Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 2.41-52

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 forty-first verse. Glory be to thee O Lord.

Now Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem every year at the feast of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom; and when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, but supposing him to be in the company they went a day's journey, and they sought him among their kinsfolk and acquaintances; and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, seeking him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions; and all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. And when they saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been looking for you anxiously." And he said to them, "How is it that you sought me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" And they did not understand the saying which he spoke to them. And he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them; and his mother kept all these things in her heart. And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature, and in favour with God and man.

The Gospel of Christ. **Praise be to thee, O Christ.**

Please be seated.

SERMON

Please stand. All who are able to kneel, please do so at 'And was incarnate.'

THE NICENE CREED

Celebrant: I believe in one God

People: the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And of all things visible and invisible:

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, Begotten of the Father before all worlds; God, of God; Light, of Light; Very God, of very God; Begotten, not made; Being of one substance with the Father; Through whom all things were made: Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, (*Kneel.*) And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, And was made man, (*Rise.*) And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried, And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures, And ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of the Father. And he shall come again with glory to judge both the quick and the dead: Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord, The Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son, Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified, Who spake by the Prophets. And I believe One, Holy, Catholic, and Apostolic Church. I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins. And I look for the Resurrection of the dead, And the Life of the world to come. Amen.

OFFERTORY

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.

Please remain standing for the hymn during the Offertory.

OFFERTORY HYMN 90 - The heavenly Child in stature grows

- The heavenly Child in stature grows, And, growing, learns to die; And still his early training shows His coming agony.
- 2 The Son of God his glory hides With parents mean and poor; And he, who made the heavens, abides In dwelling-place obscure.
- 3 Those mighty hands that rule the sky No earthly toil refuse; The Maker of the stars on high A humble trade pursues.
- 4 He, whom the choirs of angels praise, Bearing each dread decree, His earthly parents now obeys In deep humility.
- 5 For this thy lowliness revealed, Jesu, we thee adore; And praise to God the Father yield And Spirit evermore. Amen.

TALLIS Thos. Tallis, 1567 Tr. from the Latin of Canon J.B. Santeuil (1689) by Rev. J. Chandler

The people may be seated, but 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**.

Please kneel.

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, 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 Queen and for all in authority in our country, province, and city. May God guide us in the ways of justice and peace; that we 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, and we give thanks to God for the people, neighbours, and friends of this parish, and especially for all those present with us in person or via livestream; our newcomers and visitors this morning, both near and far; and for all other thanksgivings we now name, silently or aloud_____. May God's abiding presence be with us always, and may we 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 from the coronavirus, for elders in isolation, for prisoners, for refugees and migrants, for the oppressed, for those who mourn, and for all others for whom our prayers are asked_____, 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 on their year's mind for_____, that they may share with the Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed Thomas, and all the saints in God's eternal kingdom.

silence

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

Celebrant: O Source of all Joy and cause of our Exultation, hear our prayers this day and gather all people together in thy House that we may come to know the true light of this world. All this we ask through Jesus Christ, thy Son, 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.

A silence is kept.

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. 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.**

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

The Lord be with you; And with thy spirit.

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

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 Cantor sings:

Holy, Holy, Lord God of hosts, heaven and earth are full of thy glory. Glory be to thee, O Lord most High. Blessèd is he that cometh in the Name of the Lord: Hosanna in the highest.

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, O Father Almighty, world without end. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER, FRACTION AND PEACE

Celebrant: As our Saviour Christ hath commanded and taught us we are bold to say:

Our Father who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy Name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; And forgive us our trespasses, As we forgive them that trespass against us; And lead us not into temptation, But deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, For ever and ever. Amen.

The consecrated Bread is broken. After a moment of silence, the Celebrant bids the Peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you. And with thy spirit.

The Celebrant greets the Deacon, Subdeacon, and People with bows, then kneels to begin the Prayer of Humble Access.

HOLY COMMUNION

All who intend to receive Holy Communion pray together:

Celebrant: 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 Cantor sings:

AGNUS DEI

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

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

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

All baptized Christians are invited to come forward to receive Holy Communion as directed by the Sidespeople.

Мотет

Personent Hodie, Gustav Holst

Let children's voices resound today, merrily praising him who has been born, sent by almighty God and brought forth from a virgin's womb. He was born into the world, wrapped in swaddling clothes, and placed in the manger in a cattle shed, the Lord of the heavens, the Prince who destroyed the spoils of hell. Three wise men appeared; they offered gifts and asked for a boy-child, following a star; they worshipped him, offering him gold, frankincense, and myrrh. Let all the clerics, and likewise the boys, sing like the angels: "You have come to the world; therefore I pour out praises to you: Glory to God in the highest!"

Please kneel or sit.

COMMUNION HYMN 82 - O little town of Bethlehem

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

FOREST GREEN English Traditional Melody

- 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.
- 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.

Bishop Phillips Brooks 1868

Please kneel.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Celebrant: 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.**

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.**

Please stand.

DISMISSAL Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. **Thanks be to God.** CONCLUDING HYMN 741 – Good Christian men, rejoice

- 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 blessèd evermore. Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!
- 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

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

POSTLUDE: In Dulci Jubilo, BWV 729, J.S. Bach