

Saint Thomas's Church

The First Sunday in Advent

Sunday, December 3, 2023

Sung Mass at 9:30 am



The Last Judgement, Lucas Cranach the Elder, c. 1530
The Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art, Kansas City, Missouri

Saint Thomas's Anglican Church

383 Huron Street,

Toronto, Ontario M5S 2G5

416-979-2323

www.stthomas.on.ca office@stthomas.on.ca

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.



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/smokytoms. 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 & Homilist: Fr. James Shire
Reader: John Stuart
Intercessor: Ronwen Guest
Organist & Choirmaster: Elizabeth Anderson
Assistant Organist & Choirmaster: Manuel Piazza

MUSIC OF THE MASS

New Plainsong Mass, David Hurd (b. 1950)

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,
and the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,
be with you all.

And also with you.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, **to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hidden. Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

THE KYRIE

The musical notation consists of three staves, each with two parts: *Cantor* and *All*. The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is common time (C). The lyrics are: Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Chri - ste e - le - i - son. Chri - ste e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son. Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness and put on the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to us in great humility, that on the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The People sit.

FIRST LESSON

Isaiah 64.1-9

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

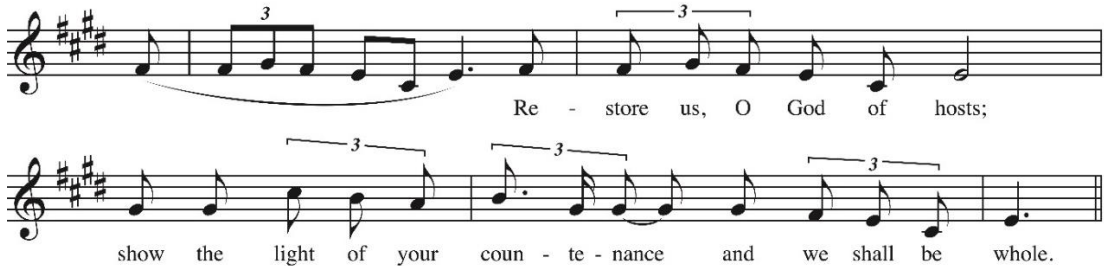
O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence - as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil - to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O Lord, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O Lord, and do not remember iniquity for ever. Now consider, we are all your people.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM 80.1-7, 16-18

The Choir sings the Refrain, which is repeated by the People. The Choir then sings the verses, and all repeat the Refrain where indicated.



Re - store us, O God of hosts;
show the light of your coun - te - nance and we shall be whole.

Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; shine forth, you that are enthroned up-on the cherubim. In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin and Manasseh, stir up your strength and come to help us. *Refrain*

O Lord God of hosts, how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people? You have fed them with the bread of tears; you have given them bowls of tears to drink. You have made us the derision of our neighbours, and our enemies laugh us to scorn. *Refrain*

Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, the son of man you have made so strong for your-self, And so will we never turn a-way from you; give us life, that we may call up-on your name. *Refrain*

THE EPISTLE

1 Corinthians 1.3-9

A reading from Saint Paul's first Epistle to the Corinthians.

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind - just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you - so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The People stand.

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

The Cantor sings the Alleluias, which are repeated by the People. The Cantor then sings the verse, and all repeat the Alleluias.



Verse: Look up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.
Repeat Alleluias.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Mark 13.24-37

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Saint Mark.

Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

Jesus said, 'But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in clouds" with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

'From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

'But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake - for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.'

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

The People sit.

SERMON

After the Sermon, the People remain seated for a period of silent reflection, standing when the Celebrant stands.

THE NICENE CREED

Let us confess our faith, as we say,

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: *(Bow.)* by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. *(Rise.)*

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again in accordance with the scriptures; he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead, and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father. With the Father and the Son he is worshipped and glorified. He has spoken through the prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

The People remain standing.

INTERCESSIONS

God our renewer, we hear the prophet cry and join in prayer for your presence. As water boiled by fire, as turbulent wind stirring dry land, come and renew peace and love as the strength of creation.

In this time of violence and fear among believers, remind all, particularly in our Communion ____, in our Diocese ____, our Bishops and those who worship and minister here that no one has heard, or eye seen, a God like you who works for those who wait for him.

Consider, Lord; **we are all your people, restore us.**

So many are silenced, may those for whom we offer thanksgiving ____, respond to your grace with a larger showing of speech and knowledge of every kind.

Consider, Lord; **we are all your people, restore us.**

All the children of men, but particularly the sick ____, may be made strong, renewed in health and faith. Give us life, that we may call upon your name. Give us strength so we never turn away from you.

Consider, Lord; **we are all your people, restore us.**

That those others, those people who have asked us to hold before God ____, may believe you come forth to meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways.

Consider, Lord; **we are all your people, restore us.**

Let the dead ____, find that God is faithful, and it is by him they are called into a closer fellowship.

Consider, Lord; **we are all your people, restore us.**

Hear, O shepherd, feed us your strength, help us in this time of violence, fear, and hate. Give us grace to turn the bread and drink of tears into the manna and wine of peaceful joy. Let your loving kindness transmute screams into song. As we are directed: by our Lord your Son, Jesus the Christ. **Amen.**

INVITATION, CONFESSION, & ABSOLUTION

Dear friends in Christ, God is steadfast in love and infinite in mercy; he welcomes sinners and invites them to his table. Let us confess our sins, confident in God's forgiveness.

The People bow or kneel. Silence is kept.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbours as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us, that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. Amen.

Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE PEACE

All standing, the Celebrant bids the Peace.

The peace of the Lord be always with you.
And also with you.

The People remain standing for the hymn during the Offertory.

OFFERTORY HYMN 66

Creator of the starry height



1. Cre - a - tor of the star - ry height,
2. Thou, sorr'w - ing at the help - less cry
3. Thou cam'st, the Bride - groom of the bride,
4. At thy great Name, ex - alt - ed now,
5. To thee, O Ho - ly One, we pray,
6. To God the Fa - ther, God the Son,



Thy peo - ple's ev - er - last - ing Light,
Of all cre - a - tion doomed to die,
As drew the world to ev - en - tide;
All knees in low - ly hom - age bow;
Our Judge in that tre - men - dous day,
and God the Spi - rit, Three in One,



Je - su, Re - deem - er of us all,
Didst save our lost and guil - ty race
Pro - ceed - ing from a vir - gin - shrine,
All things in heav'n and earth a - dore,
Ward off, while yet we dwell be - low,
Praise, hon - our, might, and glo - ry be



Hear thou thy ser - vants when they call.
 By heal - ing gifts of heav'n - ly grace.
 The spot - less Vic - tim all di - vine.
 And own thee King for ev - er - more.
 The wea - pons of our craf - ty foe.
 From age to age e - ter - nal - ly.



A - men. _____

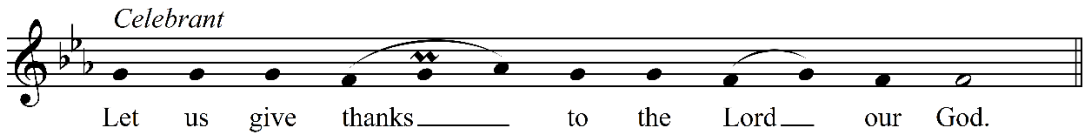
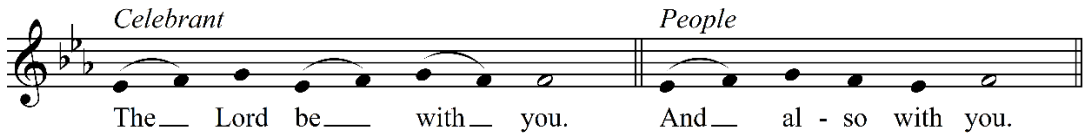
CONDITOR ALME SIDERUM
Sarum Plainsong, 7th cent.

From the Latin (c 6th cent.)
Tr. Rev. J.M. Neale 1818-66

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

God of love and power, your word stirs within us the expectation of the coming of your Son. Accept all we offer you this day, and sustain us with your promise of eternal life. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

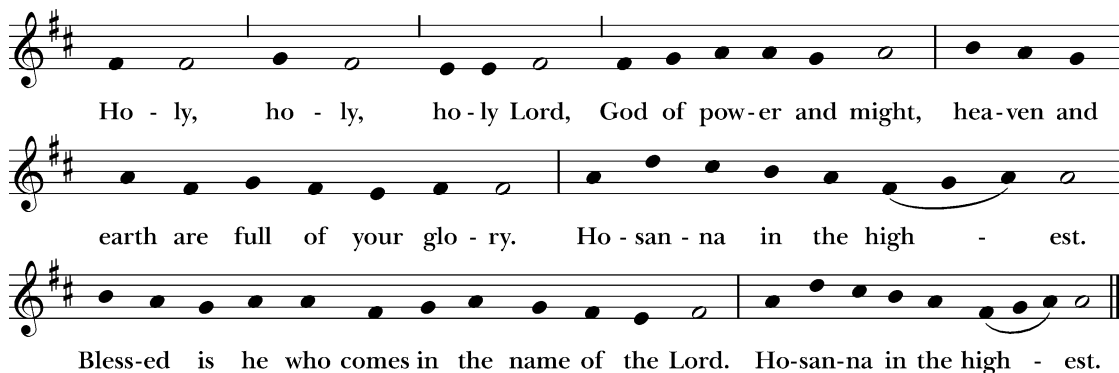


Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; we give you thanks and praise through Jesus Christ our Lord, who in the fullness of time came among us in our flesh, and opened to us the way of salvation. Now we watch for the day when he will come again in power and great triumph to judge this world, that we, without shame or fear, may rejoice to behold his appearing.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your name.

The Choir and People sing:

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, hea - ven and
earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The musical score is written on three staves in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The melody is simple and homophonic, with lyrics written below the notes. The first staff contains the first line of lyrics, the second staff the second line, and the third staff the third line. The music ends with a double bar line.

Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

The People remain standing.

We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love you have made known to us in creation; in calling Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, a death he freely accepted, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, Father, according to his command:

**We remember his death,
we proclaim his resurrection,
we await his coming in glory.**

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts, that they may be the sacrament of the body of Christ and his blood of the new covenant.

Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we, made acceptable in him, may be sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ, and make them new, and bring us to that city of light where you dwell with all your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation; by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Music by McNeil Robinson

Celebrant *People*

As our Sa - viour taught us, let us pray, Our Fa - ther in heav - en,
hal - lowed be your name, your king - dom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heav - en. Give us to - day our dai - ly bread, For - give us our sins
as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the time of trial,
and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom, the pow - er,
and the glo - ry are ___ yours, now and for ev - er. A - men.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

God of promise, you prepare a banquet for us in your kingdom.
Happy are those who are called to the supper of the Lamb.

HOLY COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

The Choir and People sing:

AGNUS DEI

Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world:
have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you take a - way the
sins of the world: have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God,
you take a - way the sins of the world: grant us peace.

Music: From *New Plainsong*; David Hurd (b. 1950). Copyright © 1981 GIA Publications, Inc.

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!

MOTET

Rorate Coeli (Plainsong)

Rorate, coeli, desuper, et nubes pluant iustum; Ne irascáris Dómine, ne ultra memínaris iniquitátis: ecce cívitas Sancti facta est desérta: Sion desérta facta est: Jerúsalem desoláta est: domus sanctificatiónis tuæ et glóriæ tuæ, ubi laudavérunt te patres nostri. Peccávimus et facti sumus tamquam immúndus nos, et cecídimus quasi fólium univérsi: et iniquitátes nostræ quasi ventus abstulérunt nos: abscondísti fáciem tuam a nobis, et allisisti nos in manu iniquitátis nostræ. Vide Domine afflictiónem pópuli tui, et mitte quem missúrus es: emítte Agnum dominatórem terræ, de Petra desérta ad montem fíliæ Sion: ut áuferat ipse jugum captivitátis nostræ. Consolámini, consolámini, pópule meus: cito véniet salus tua: quare moeróre consúmeris, quia innovávit te dolor? Salvábo te, noli timére, ego enim sum Dóminus Deus tuus, Sanctus Israel, Redémptor tuus.

Drop down dew, ye heavens, from above, and let the clouds rain down the Just One. Be not angry, O Lord, and remember no longer our iniquity: behold the city of the Holy One is become a desert: Sion is become a desert: Jerusalem is desolate: the house of thy sanctification and of thy glory, where our fathers praised thee. We have sinned and are become as one that is unclean: and we have all fallen as a leaf, and our iniquities like the wind have carried us away: thou hast hidden thy face from us, and hast crushed us in the hold of our iniquity. Behold, O Lord, the affliction of thy people, and send forth Him Who is to come: send forth the Lamb, the ruler of the earth, from the Rock of the desert, to the mount of daughter Sion: that he may take away the yoke of our captivity. Be comforted, be comforted, my people: thy salvation cometh quickly: why art thou consumed with grief: for sorrow hath estranged thee: I will save thee: fear not, for I am the Lord thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Redeemer.

COMMUNION DEVOTIONS

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

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament. And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I humbly ask you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to you, and embrace you with all the affections of my soul. Let me never be separated from you. Let me live and die in your 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.

The People stand.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

God for whom we wait, you have fed us with the bread of eternal life. Keep us ever watchful, that we may be ready to stand before the Son of man. We ask this in the name of Christ the Lord. **Amen.**

DOXOLOGY

Glory to God,
whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.

BLESSING

The peace of God which passes 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 Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

DISMISSAL

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

CONCLUDING HYMN 396

Hail to the Lord's Anointed



1. Hail to the Lord's An - oin - ted, Great Da - vid's great - er Son!
2. He shall come down like show - ers up - on the fruit - ful earth;
3. Kings shall fall down be - fore Him, and gold and in - cense bring;
4. O'er ev - ery foe vic - to - rious, He on his throne shall rest,



Hail, in the time ap - poin - ted, His reign on earth be - gun!
 And love, joy, hope, like flo - wers, spring in His path to birth:
 All na - tions shall a - dore him, His praise all peo - ple sing;
 From age to age more glo - rious, All - bles - sing and all - blest.



He comes to break op - pres - sion, to set the cap - tive free;
 Be - fore Him on the moun - tains shall peace, the he - rald, go;
 To Him shall prayer un - ceas - ing and dai - ly vows as - cend;
 The tide of time shall ne - ver His co - ve - nant re - move;



To take a - way trans - gres - sion and rule in e - qui - ty.
 From hill to vale the foun - tains of righ - teous - ness o'er - flow.
 His king - dom still in - creas - ing, a king - dom with - out end.
 His Name shall stand for ev - er, His change-less Name of Love.

CRÜGER
 Johann Crüger, 1640

James Montgomery, 1821

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

Coffee Hour follows this service in the Parish Hall.

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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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