

Saint Thomas's Church

**The Second Sunday After Christmas
Sunday, January 2, 2022**

Choral Mass at 11 o'clock



The Creation of the World

by an unknown artist, Germany, c. 1170
J. Paul Getty Museum, Los Angeles

Saint Thomas's Anglican Church
383 Huron Street,
Toronto, Ontario M5S 2G5
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www.stthomas.on.ca office@stthomas.on.ca

The Altar flowers are given to the honour and glory of almighty God:

*Those at the Lady Altar in loving memory of Sarah and Harold Millar,
by their granddaughter Charis Kelso.*

Celebrant and Homilist: Fr. D'Angelo
Organist: Elizabeth Anderson

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 – Missa Secunda, Hans Leo Hassler

PRELUDE: Der Tag, der ist so freudenreich, BWV 605, *J.S. Bach*

Please remain seated as the choir enters the church during the prelude. At the sound of the bell, all stand for the entrance of the Sacred Ministers.

THE BAPTISM OF JULIAN KINGSTON MILES STUART

Son of MerryAnne & Duncan Stuart

The service starts in the Narthex.
Please stand when the bell rings.

The priest will begin by saying:

Dearly beloved in Christ, seeing that God willeth all men to be saved from the fault and corruption of the nature which they inherit, as well as from the actual sins which they commit, and that our Saviour Christ saith, None can enter into the kingdom of God, except he be born anew of Water and of the Holy Spirit, I beseech you to call upon God the Father, through our Lord Jesus Christ, that he will grant to this Child that which by nature he cannot have; that he may be baptized with Water and the Holy Spirit, and received into Christ's holy Church, and be made a living member of the same.

Let us pray:

Almighty and everlasting God, who through thy well-beloved Son Jesus Christ didst sanctify Water to the mystical washing away of sin: We beseech thee mercifully to look upon this Child; wash him and sanctify him with the Holy Spirit; that he may be received into thy holy Church; and being steadfast in faith, joyful through hope, and rooted in charity, may so pass through the dangers of this troublesome world, that finally he may come to the land of everlasting life, there to reign with thee world without end; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The child will be brought into the church as the priest says:

Child, enter thou into the temple of God, that thou mayest have part with Christ unto everlasting life.
Amen.

Then the priest shall say:

Beloved, in the Holy Gospel of our Saviour Christ, he commanded the children to be brought unto him; he blamed those that would have kept them from him; he exhorteth all men to follow their innocency. By his outward gesture and deed he declared his good will toward them; for he embraced them in his arms, he laid his hands upon them, and blessed them. Be ye, therefore, assured that he will likewise favourably receive this present child; that he will embrace him with the arms of his mercy; that he will give unto him the blessing of eternal life, and make him partaker of his everlasting kingdom. Wherefore we being thus persuaded of the good will of our heavenly Father toward this child, declared by his Son Jesus Christ, let us faithfully and devoutly give thanks unto him, and say together:

Celebrant and people:

Almighty and everlasting God, heavenly Father, We give thee humble thanks That thou hast called us to the knowledge of thy grace, And faith in thee: Increase this knowledge, and confirm this faith in us evermore. Give thy Holy Spirit to this child, That he may be born again, And may inherit everlasting salvation; Through our Lord Jesus Christ, Who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Spirit, Now and for ever. Amen.

THE PROMISES

Dearly beloved, you have prayed that our Lord Jesus Christ may be pleased to receive, cleanse, and sanctify this Child, and grant unto him the blessing of eternal life, which things Christ, for his part, will most surely perform. And now this Child, on his part, must through you, his Sponsors, promise and vow that he will renounce the devil and all his works, believe in Christ, and obediently keep God's commandments.

Then shall the Priest say to the Sponsors:

Do you, in the name of this Child, renounce the devil and all his works, the vain pomp and glory of the world, with all covetous desires of the same, and the sinful desires of the flesh, so that you will not follow nor be led by them?

Answer. **I do.**

Then shall the priest say: Let us recite the Articles of our Belief.

I believe in God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth: And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord, Who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, Born of the Virgin Mary, Suffered under Pontius Pilate, Was crucified, dead, and buried: He descended into hell; The third day he rose again from the dead; He ascended into heaven, And sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; The holy Catholic Church; The Communion of Saints; The Forgiveness of sins; The Resurrection of the body, And the Life everlasting. Amen.

Then shall the priest say to the Sponsors:

Do you, in the name of this Child, profess this faith?

Answer: **I do.**

Do you, in the name of this Child, seek Baptism into this faith?

Answer: **I do.**

Do you, in the name of this Child, acknowledge the duty to keep God's holy will and commandments, walking steadfastly in the Way of Christ?

Answer: **I do.**

Will you pray for this Child, and take care that he may learn and do all these things?

Answer: **I will.**

Then shall the Priest make the following supplications:

O merciful God, grant that all sinful desires may die in this Child, and that all things belonging to the Spirit may live and grow in him. **Amen.**

Grant that he may have power and strength to have victory, and to triumph against the devil, the world, and the flesh. **Amen.**

Grant that whosoever here shall begin to be of thy flock may evermore continue in the same. **Amen.**

THE BAPTISM

Priest: The Lord be with you;

People: **And with thy spirit.**

Priest: Lift up your hearts;

People: **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Priest: Let us give thanks unto our Lord God;

People: **It is meet and right so to do.**

Then shall the Priest say:

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, for that thy most dearly beloved Son Jesus Christ upon the Cross, for the forgiveness of our sins, did shed out of his most precious side both water and blood; and after his glorious Resurrection gave commandment to his disciples, saying, All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth. Go ye therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

Regard, we beseech thee, the prayers of thy Church. Sanctify this Water to the mystical washing away of sin; and grant that this child, now to be baptized therein, may receive the fulness of thy grace and ever remain in the number of thy faithful and elect children; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, throughout all ages, world without end. **Amen.**

Then, taking the child into his arms, he shall say to the Sponsors:

Name this Child.

And then, naming him after them, he shall pour water upon him, saying:

Julian Kingston Miles, I baptize thee In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost. **Amen.**

Then shall the Priest say:

We receive this Child into the Congregation of Christ's flock, and do sign him with the sign of the Cross, in token that hereafter he shall not be ashamed to confess the faith of Christ crucified, and faithfully to fight under his banner against sin, the world, and the devil, and to continue Christ's faithful soldier and servant unto his life's end. **Amen**

Then shall the Priest say:

We yield thee hearty thanks, most merciful Father, that it hath pleased thee to regenerate Julian, with thy Holy Spirit, to receive him for thine own Child by adoption, and to make him a member of thy holy Church. Grant, O Lord, that being baptized into the death of Christ, he may also be made partaker of his resurrection, so that serving thee here in newness of life, he may finally, with all thy holy Church, inherit thine everlasting kingdom; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE DUTIES

The Priest shall say to the Sponsors and Parents:

Dearly beloved, forasmuch as you have brought Julian to be baptized into the family of Christ's Church, you must remember that it is your part and duty to see that he be taught what a solemn vow, promise and profession he has here made by you; and that he be instructed in the Creed, the Ten Commandments, the Lord's Prayer, the Church Catechism, and all other things which a Christian ought to know and believe to his soul's health, continually mortifying all evil desires, and daily increasing in all virtue and godliness of living.

Use all diligence therefore to see that he be virtuously brought up to lead a godly and a Christian life; teach him to pray, take him part in public worship, and to go forth into the world to serve God faithfully in the fellowship of his Church.

Will you be faithful in the fulfilment of these duties?

Answer: I will, the Lord being my helper.

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, whose beloved Son did share in Nazareth the life of an earthly home: Bless, we beseech thee, the home of this Child, and grant wisdom and understanding to all who shall have the care of her, that he may grow up in steadfast love and reverence of thy holy Name; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Priest: Receive the light of Christ to show that you have passed from darkness to light.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

The Ministers lead the baptismal party into the nave to return to their pews as the Choir sings:

HYMN 554 - Blest are the pure in heart

- 1 Blest are the pure in heart,
For they shall see our God;
The secret of the Lord is theirs,
Their soul is Christ's abode.
- 2 The Lord, who left the heav'ns
Our life and peace to bring,
To dwell in lowliness with men,
Their Pattern and their King;
- 3 Still to the lowly soul
He doth himself impart,
And for his dwelling and his throne
Chooseth the pure in heart.
- 4 Lord, we thy presence seek;
May ours this blessing be;
Give us a pure and lowly heart,
A temple meet for thee.

FRANCONIA

*W.H. Havergal 1793-1870 adapted from melody
in König's Harmonischer Liederschatz Frankfurt 1738*

John Keble 1792-1866

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.**

The Choir sings

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 Collects.

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: Jeremiah 31.7-14

The First Lesson is written in the thirty-first chapter of the book of the prophet Jeremiah, beginning at the seventh verse.

For thus says the Lord: "Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, 'The Lord has saved his people, the remnant of Israel.' Behold, I will bring them from the north country, and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, the woman with child and her who is in travail, together; a great company, they shall return here. With weeping they shall come, and with consolations I will lead them back, I will make them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble; for I am a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my first-born. "Hear the word of the Lord, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands afar off; say, 'He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd keeps his flock.' For the Lord has ransomed Jacob, and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall be like a watered garden, and they shall languish no more. Then shall the maidens rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy, I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. I will feast the soul of the priests with abundance, and my people shall be satisfied with my goodness, says the Lord."

The word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

The people remain seated as the choir sings the psalm.

PSALM: 147.12-20, Tone VIII, 1

- 12 Praise the Lord, O Jerusalem: / praise thy God, O Sion.
13 For he hath made fast the bars of thy gates, / and hath blessed thy children within thee.
14 He maketh peace in thy borders, / and filleth thee with the finest of the wheat.
15 He sendeth forth his commandment upon earth; / and his word runneth very swiftly.
16 He giveth snow like wool, / and scattereth the hoar-frost like ashes.
17 He casteth forth his ice like morsels: / who is able to abide his frost?
18 He sendeth out his word, and melteth them: / he bloweth with his wind, and the waters flow.
19 He showeth his word unto Jacob, / his statutes and ordinances unto Israel.
20 He hath not dealt so with any nation; / neither have they knowledge of his laws.

THE EPISTLE: Ephesians 1.3-14

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

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. He destined us in love to be his sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace which he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved. In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace which he lavished upon us. For he has made known to us in all wisdom and insight the mystery of his will, according to his purpose which he set forth in Christ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. In him, according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to the counsel of his will, we who first hoped in Christ have been destined and appointed to live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, who have heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and have believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, which is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

The word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The Choir sings:

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Alleluia. Alleluia. Glory to Christ who is preached among the nations, and believed on in the world.
Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL: John 1.1-18

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. He was in the beginning with God; all things were made through him, and without him was not anything made that was made. In him was life, and the life was the light of men. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came for testimony, to bear witness to the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light, but came to bear witness to the light. The true light that enlightens every man was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world knew him not. He came to his own home, and his own people received him not. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God; who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth; we have beheld his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father. (John bore witness to him, and cried, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks before me, for he was before me.'") And from his fullness have we all received, grace upon grace. For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God; the only Son, who is in the bosom of the Father, he has made him known.

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise be to thee, O Christ.

Please be seated.

SERMON

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 691 – In the bleak mid-winter

- 1 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.

- 2 Our God, heaven cannot hold him,
Nor earth sustain;
Heaven and earth shall flee away
When he comes to reign;
In the bleak mid-winter
A stable-place sufficed
The Lord God Almighty,
Jesus Christ.
- 3 Angels and archangels
May have gathered there,
Cherubim and Seraphim
Thronged the air;
But only his mother
In her maiden bliss,
Worshipped the Beloved
With a kiss.
- 4 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.

CRANHAM
Gustav T. Holst, 1906

Words by Christina Rossetti, c. 1872

The people stand as the thurifer approaches for the censuring.

PRAYER OVER THE GIFTS

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

Please kneel.

INTERCESSIONS

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

silence

Lord, in thy mercy

We beseech thee, hear our prayer.

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: Creator of the World, all things were made by thee through thy Word, and without thee nothing would be. May all our prayers be acceptable unto thee and cast away the darkness of this world with thy marvellous light. We ask this 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.

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.**

EUCCHARISTIC 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 in the mystery of the Word made flesh, thou hast caused a new light to shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of thy glory, in the face of thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

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 sings:

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.

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.

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 Choir 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.

MOTET

A boy was born, *Benjamin Britten*

A Boy was born in Bethlehem; Rejoice for that, Jerusalem! Alleluya. He let himself a servant be, That all mankind he might set free: Alleluya. Then praise the Word of God who came To dwell within a human frame: Alleluya. (16th c German, tr Percy Dearmer)

Please kneel or sit.

COMMUNION HYMN 391 – Songs of Praise the angels sang

- 1 Songs of Praise the angels sang,
Heaven with alleluias rang,
When creation was begun,
When God spake and it was done.
- 2 Songs of praise awoke the morn
When the Prince of Peace was born;
Songs of praise arose when he
Captive led captivity.
- 3 Heaven and earth must pass away,
Songs of praise shall crown that day;
God will make new heavens and earth,
Songs of praise shall hail their birth.
- 4 And will man alone be dumb
Till that glorious kingdom come?
No, the Church delights to raise
Psalms and hymns and songs of praise.
- 5 Saints below, with heart and voice,
Still in songs of praise rejoice;
Learning here, by faith and love,
Songs of praise to sing above.
- 6 Hymns of glory, songs of praise,
Father, unto thee we raise.
Jesu, glory unto thee,
With the Spirit, ever be.

CULBACH
Scheffler's Hellige Seelenlust, 1657

James Montgomery, 1819

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 87 – The year is gone beyond recall

- 1 The year is gone beyond recall,
Will all its hopes and fears,
With all its bright and gladdening smiles,
With all its mourners' tears.
- 2 Thy thankful people praise thee, Lord,
For countless gifts received
And pray for grace to keep the faith
Which saints of old believed.
- 3 To thee we come, O gracious Lord,
The new-born year to bless;
Defend our land from pestilence;
Give peace and plenteousness;
- 4 Forgive this nation's many sins;
The growth of vice restrain;
And help us all with sin to strive
And crowns of life to gain.
- 5 From evil deeds that stain the past
We now desire to flee;
And pray that future years may all
Be spent, good Lord, for thee.
- 6 O Father, let thy watchful eye
Still look on us in love,
That we may praise thee, year by year,
With angel-hosts above.
- 7 All glory to the Father be,
All glory to the Son,
All glory, Holy Ghost, to thee,
While endless ages run.

TALLIS
Thos. Tallis, 1567

Tr. (1861) from the Latin Le Mans Breviary (1748) by Rev. F. Pott

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

POSTLUDE: In dir ist Freude, BWV 615, *J.S. Bach*