



Worshiping Jesus Christ, Living in His Truth, & Blessing others in His Name.

The Third Sunday in Advent
Sunday, December 14, 2025
Holy Eucharist - 9:30 a.m.

The Third Sunday of Advent is Gaudete Sunday, also known as Rose Sunday, which is marked by the lighting the pink or rose-colored candle among the four candles of the Advent wreath. The origins of Gaudete Sunday can be traced to the opening words of the introit antiphon at the beginning of the ancient Latin mass on this day: "Rejoice (Gaudete) in the Lord always." You will note that today's appointed scriptures all include the theme of joy or rejoicing.

Today we welcome Bishop Eric Menees. He is making his Annual Pastoral visit to the parish and will preach & celebrate.

During the season of Advent we use the Anglican Standard Text (BCP p.105) for our Eucharistic liturgy instead of the Renewed Ancient Text (BCP p.123), we sing different arrangements of service music (see Worship Guide), and we omit the Gloria in Excelsis & all 'alleluias'.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN: "Rejoice, Rejoice Believers"

Tune: Lancashire ("The Day of Resurrection")

1. Rejoice, rejoice, believers, / and let your lights appear; / the evening is advancing, / and darker night is near. / The Bridegroom is arising / and soon is drawing nigh. / Up, pray and watch and wrestle; / at midnight comes the cry.
2. The watchers on the mountain / proclaim the Bridegroom near; / go forth, as he approaches, / with alleluias clear. / The marriage feast is waiting; / the gates wide open stand, / Arise, O heirs of glory; / the Bridegroom is at hand.
3. You saints, who here in patience / your cross and sufferings bore, / shall live and reign forever / when sorrow is no more. / Around the throne of glory / the Lamb you shall behold, / in triumph lay before him / your shining crowns of gold.
4. Our hope and expectation, / O Jesus, now appear; / arise, O Sun so longed for, / above the darkened sphere. / With hearts and hands uplifted, / we plead, O Lord, to see / the day of earth's redemption / that sets your people free!

OPENING ACCLAMATION: FOR ADVENT

Book of Common Prayer p. 145

Celebrant Surely the Lord is coming soon.
People Amen. Come Lord Jesus!

WELCOME

Fr John Roberts, Rector

CHILDREN'S DISMISSAL TO CHAPEL

Celebrant It is time to dismiss the children to the Chapel and to our Lord's invitation, "Let the children come unto me."

People **For the kingdom of God belongs to such as these.** LUKE 18:16

One parent or guardian of a participating child please take your child to meet today's Children's Chapel leaders in the back of the Church.

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

The Celebrant prays (and the People may be invited to join)

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: 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 SUMMARY OF THE LAW

Then follows the Summary of the Law,

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says:

You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the great and first commandment. And a second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets. MATTHEW 22:37-40^T

THE KYRIE

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up -

on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -

on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -

on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Celebrant says to the People

The Lord be with you

People

And with your spirit.

Celebrant

Let us pray.

O Lord Jesus Christ, you sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Grant that the ministers and stewards of your mysteries may likewise make ready your way, by turning the hearts of the disobedient toward the wisdom of the just, that at your second coming to judge the world, we may be found a people acceptable in your sight; for with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, one God, now and for ever.

People **Amen.**

THE FIRST READING: Isaiah 35:1-10

English Standard Version

¹ The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus; ² it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God.

³ Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. ⁴ Say to those who have an anxious heart, "Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you."

⁵ Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; ⁶ then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy. For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; ⁷ the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down, the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

⁸ And a highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Way of Holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it. It shall belong to those who walk on the way; even if they are fools, they shall not go astray. ⁹ No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. ¹⁰ And the ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

The word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM 146

The New Coverdale Psalter - BCP 2019

¹ Praise the Lord, O my soul; *
while I live I will praise the Lord.

² **Indeed, as long as I have my being, ***
I will sing praises unto my God.

³ Put not your trust in princes, nor in any child of man, *
for there is no help in them.

⁴ **For when one breathes his last, he shall return again to the earth; ***
and in that day all his thoughts perish.

⁵ Blessed is the one who has the God of Jacob for his help *
and whose hope is in the Lord his God,

⁶ Who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is therein; *
who keeps his promise for ever;

⁷ Who does right to those who suffer wrong; *
and who feeds the hungry.

⁸ **The Lord sets prisoners free; ***
the Lord gives sight to the blind.

⁹ The Lord helps those who have fallen; *
the Lord loves the righteous.

¹⁰ **The Lord cares for the strangers in the land; he defends the fatherless and widow; ***
but the way of the ungodly he makes crooked.

¹¹ The Lord shall be King for evermore, *
even your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Praise the Lord.

THE SECOND READING: James 5:7-20

English Standard Version

⁷ Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸ You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. ⁹ Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; behold, the Judge is standing at the door. ¹⁰ As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹ Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

¹² But above all, my brothers, do not swear, either by heaven or by earth or by any other oath, but let your “yes” be yes and your “no” be no, so that you may not fall under condemnation.

¹³ Is anyone among you suffering? Let him pray. Is anyone cheerful? Let him sing praise. ¹⁴ Is anyone among you sick? Let him call for the elders of the church, and let them pray over him, anointing him with oil in the name of the Lord. ¹⁵ And the prayer of faith will save the one who is sick, and the Lord will raise him up. And if he has committed sins, he will be forgiven. ¹⁶ Therefore, confess your sins to one another and pray for one another, that you may be healed. The prayer of a righteous person has great power as it is working. ¹⁷ Elijah was a man with a nature like ours, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. ¹⁸ Then he prayed again, and heaven gave rain, and the earth bore its fruit.

¹⁹ My brothers, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and someone brings him back, ²⁰ let him know that whoever brings back a sinner from his wandering will save his soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

The Word of the Lord.

People

Thanks be to God.

GRADUAL HYMN: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

Hymn 56, Verses 1,2,4,6

1. O come, O come, Emma--nuel / And ransom captive I--srael / That mourns in lonely e--xile here / Until the Son of Go--d appear.

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emma--nuel ∩ shall come to thee, O Israel!

2. O come, Thou Wisdom fro--m on high / And order all things fa--r and nigh / To us the path of kno--wledge show / And cause us in her wa--ys to go. [Refrain]

4. O come, Thou Branch of Je--sse's tree, / An ensign of Thy peo--ple be; / Before Thee rulers si--lent fall; / All peoples on Thy mer--cy call. [Refrain]

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Matthew 11:2-19

English Standard Version

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to St. Matthew.

People

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

² Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples ³ and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” ⁴ And Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵ the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. ⁶ And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

⁷ As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the

wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸ What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear **soft** clothing are in kings' houses. ⁹ What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰ This is he of whom it is written,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,
who will prepare your way before you.”

¹¹ Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he. ¹² From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. ¹³ For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, ¹⁴ and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. ¹⁵ He who has ears to hear, let him hear.

¹⁶ “But to what shall I compare this generation? It is like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling to their playmates,

¹⁷ “We played the flute for you, and you did not dance;
we sang a dirge, and you did not mourn.”

¹⁸ For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, ‘He has a demon.’ ¹⁹ The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, ‘Look at him! A glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners!’ Yet wisdom is justified by her deeds.”

The Gospel of the Lord.

People

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

GRADUAL HYMN (Continued)

6. O come, Thou Dayspring co--me and cheer / Our spirits by Thine ad--vent here / Disperse the gloomy clou--ds of night / And death's dark shadows pu--t to flight. [Refrain]//

THE NICENE CREED

On Sundays, other Major Feast Days, and other times as appointed, all stand to recite the Nicene Creed, the Celebrant first saying
Let us confess our faith in the words of the Nicene Creed:

Celebrant and People

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, visible and invisible.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten 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,
was incarnate from the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary,
and was made man.**

**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.

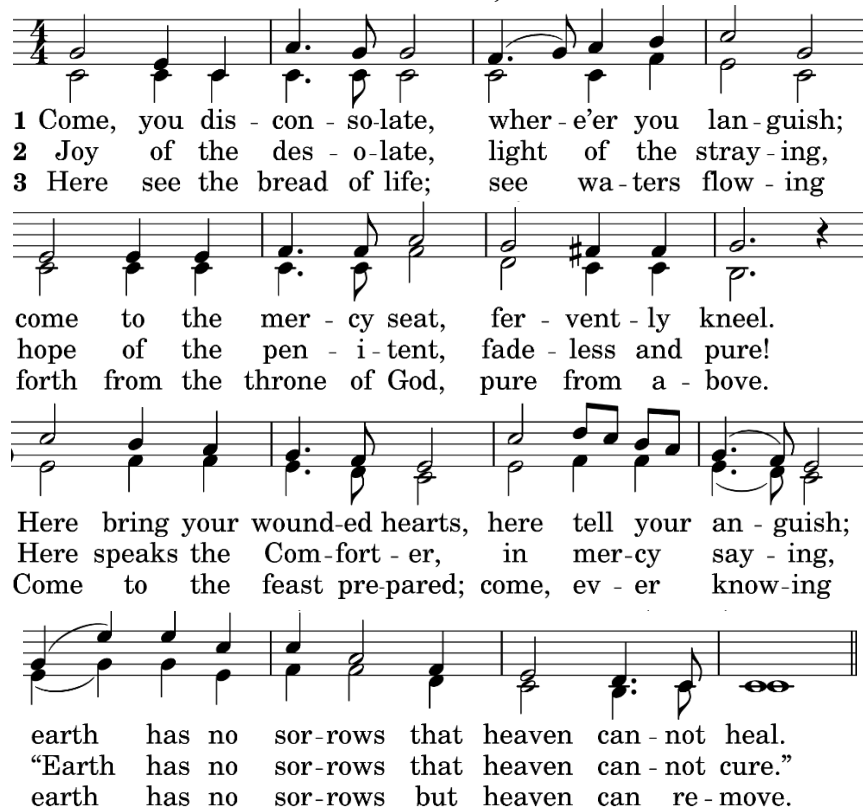
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father [and the Son],†
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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.

SERMON

Bishop Eric Menees

RESPONSE HYMN: "Come, You Disconsolate"



1 Come, you dis - con - so-late, wher - e'er you lan - guish;
2 Joy of the des - o-late, light of the stray - ing,
3 Here see the bread of life; see wa - ters flow - ing

come to the mer - cy seat, fer - vent - ly kneel.
hope of the pen - i - tent, fade - less and pure!
forth from the throne of God, pure from a - bove.

Here bring your wound-ed hearts, here tell your an - guish;
Here speaks the Com-fort - er, in mer-cy say - ing,
Come to the feast pre-pared; come, ev - er know-ing

earth has no sor-rows that heaven can - not heal.
"Earth has no sor-rows that heaven can - not cure."
earth has no sor-rows but heaven can re - move.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

The Deacon or other person appointed says these prayers, or the Prayers of the People in the Renewed Ancient Text.

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world, saying, "hear our prayer."

Almighty and everliving God, we are taught by your holy Word to offer prayers and supplications and to give thanks for all people. We humbly ask you mercifully to receive our prayers. Inspire continually the universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all who confess your holy Name may agree in the truth of your holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Silence

Reader Lord, in your mercy.

People **Hear our prayer.**

We pray that you will lead the nations of the world in the way of righteousness; and so guide and direct their

leaders, especially N, our President, that your people may enjoy the blessings of freedom and peace. Grant that our leaders may impartially administer justice, uphold integrity and truth, restrain wickedness and vice, and protect true religion and virtue.

Silence

Reader Lord, in your mercy.

People **Hear our prayer.**

Give grace, heavenly Father, to all Bishops, Priests, and Deacons, and especially to your servant(s) N, our Archbishop/Bishop/Priest/ Deacon, etc., that by their life and teaching, they may proclaim your true and life-giving Word, and rightly and duly administer your holy Sacraments. And to all your people give your heavenly grace, especially to this Congregation, that with reverent and obedient hearts we may hear and receive your holy Word, and serve you in holiness and righteousness all the days of our lives.

Silence

Reader Lord, in your mercy.

People **Hear our prayer.**

Prosper, we pray, all those who proclaim the Gospel of your kingdom throughout the world, and strengthen us to fulfill your great commission, making disciples of all nations, baptizing them and teaching them to obey all that you have commanded.

Silence

Reader Lord, in your mercy.

People **Hear our prayer.**

We ask you in your goodness, O Lord, to comfort and sustain all who in this transitory life are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity [especially _____].

Silence

Reader Lord, in your mercy.

People **Hear our prayer.**

We remember before you all your servants who have departed this life in your faith and fear, [especially _____], that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we ask you to give us grace to follow the good examples of [N., and] all your saints, that we may share with them in your heavenly kingdom.

Silence

Reader Lord, in your mercy.

People **Hear our prayer.**

[Anglican cycle of prayer]

Additional petitions may be added, and thanksgivings may be invited, at this time either silently or aloud.

The Celebrant concludes with the following prayer

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION OF SIN

The Deacon or other person appointed says the following

Let us humbly confess our sins to Almighty God.

Silence

The Deacon and People kneel as able and pray

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 neighbors 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.

The Bishop or Priest stands and says

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who in his great mercy has promised forgiveness of sins to all those who sincerely repent and with true faith turn to 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 COMFORTABLE WORDS

The Celebrant may then say one or more of the following sentences, first saying

Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

Come to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest.

MATTHEW 11:28

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life.

JOHN 3:16^T

The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners.

1 TIMOTHY 1:15

If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

1 JOHN 2:1-2

THE PEACE

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And with your spirit.**

The Ministers and People may greet those they are gathered with in the name of the Lord. Texting or emailing others or the Peace or commenting with it on social media.

BIRTHDAY & ANNIVERSARY PRAYERS

BCP 666-667 / Worship Guide p. X

CELEBRATING THIS WEEK

Their Birthday: Brooke R. (19)

Their Anniversary: Fr John Roberts - Ordination to Priesthood (17)

THE OFFERTORY

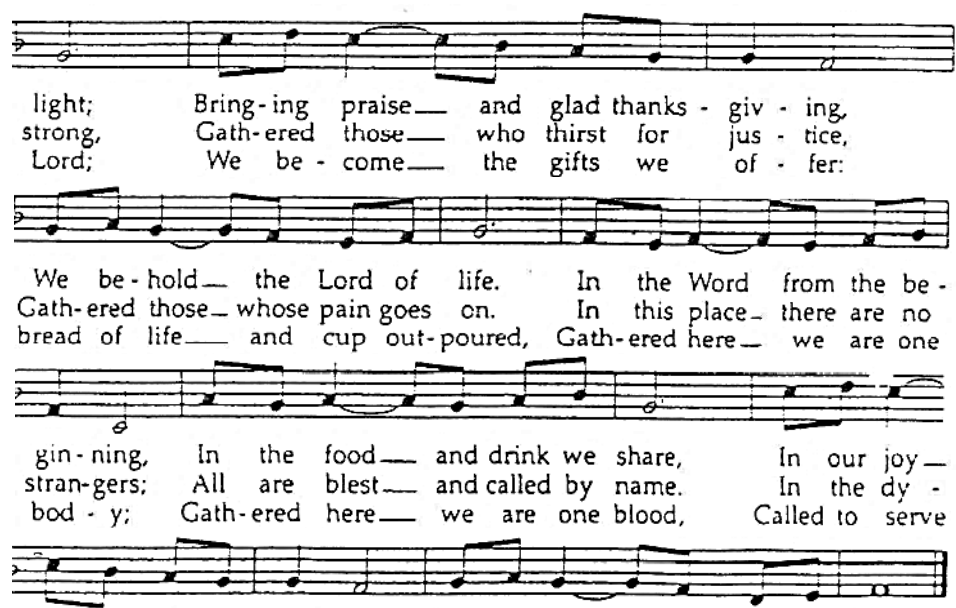
The Celebrant may begin the Offertory with a sentence of Scripture (BCP 149-151).

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OFFERTORY HYMN: "Gathered Now"



1. Gath-ered now a cho-sen peo-ple, Called from dark-ness in-to
2. Gath-ered now from ev-'ry cor-ner, Gath-ered now the weak and
3. Gath-ered now a-round one ta-ble, Gath-ered in— our sav-ing



light; Bring-ing praise— and glad thanks - giv - ing,
strong, Gath-ered those— who thirst for jus - tice,
Lord; We be - come— the gifts we of - fer:

We be - hold— the Lord of life. In the Word from the be -
Gath-ered those— whose pain goes on. In this place— there are no
bread of life— and cup out-poured, Gath-ered here— we are one

gin-ning, In the food— and drink we share, In our joy—
stran-gers; All are blest— and called by name. In the dy -
bod - y; Gath-ered here— we are one blood, Called to serve

— and in our griev-ing, We be - lieve— that Christ is there.
— ing and the ris - ing, Ho - ly peo - ple we re - main.
— our ris - en Sav - ior, Called to live— God's word of love.

THE DOXOLOGY

Then, the people stand and may sing the doxology as follows



Praise God — from — whom all bless - ings flow; Praise

Him — all crea - tures here — be - low. Praise

Him — a - bove ye heav - en - ly host; Praise

Fa - ther, Son and Ho - ly Ghost.

DECLARATION OF INTENTIONS

THE SURSUM CORDA^

The People remain standing. The Celebrant faces them and sings

Celebrant *People*

The Lord be with you. And with your spi - rit.

Celebrant *People*

Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord.

Celebrant

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

The Celebrant continues

It is right, our duty and our joy, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth, through Jesus Christ our Lord; according to whose most true promise, the Holy Spirit came down from heaven, lighting upon the disciples, to teach them, and to lead them into all truth; giving them boldness and fervent zeal constantly to preach the Gospel to all nations; by which we have been brought out of darkness and error into the clear light and true knowledge of you, and of your Son Jesus Christ.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

THE SANCTUS

Celebrant and People will sing

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,

heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

The People kneel as able. The Celebrant continues

All praise and glory is yours, O God our heavenly Father, for in your tender mercy, you gave your only Son Jesus Christ to suffer death upon the Cross for our redemption. He 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 he instituted, and in his Holy Gospel commanded us to continue, a perpetual memory of his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

So now, O merciful Father, in your great goodness, we ask you to bless and sanctify, with your Word and Holy Spirit, these gifts of bread and wine, that we, receiving them according to your Son our Savior Jesus Christ's holy institution, in remembrance of his death and passion, may be partakers of his most blessed Body and Blood.

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or lay a hand upon it, and here may break the bread; and at the words concerning the cup, to hold or place a hand upon the cup and any other vessel containing the wine to be consecrated.*

For on the night that he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks, he broke 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, Jesus took the cup, and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for 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 in remembrance of me."

Therefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, according to the institution of your dearly beloved Son our Savior Jesus Christ, we your humble servants celebrate and make here before your divine Majesty, with these holy gifts, the memorial your Son commanded us to make; remembering his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension, and his promise to come again.

And we earnestly desire your fatherly goodness mercifully to accept this, our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving; asking you to grant that, by the merits and death of your Son Jesus Christ, and through faith in his Blood, we and your whole Church may obtain forgiveness of our sins, and all other benefits of his passion.

And here we offer and present to you, O Lord, ourselves, our souls and bodies, to be a reasonable, holy, and living sacrifice. We humbly pray that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ, be filled with your grace and heavenly benediction, and be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him.

And although we are unworthy, because of our many sins, to offer you any sacrifice, yet we ask you to accept this duty and service we owe, not weighing our merits, but pardoning our offenses, through Jesus Christ our Lord. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

The Celebrant then says

And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:

Celebrant and People together pray

**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 those who trespass against us.**

**And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom,
and the power, and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.**

THE FRACTION

If the consecrated Bread was not broken earlier, the Celebrant breaks it now. A period of silence is kept.

Then may be sung or said

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People **Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.**

THE PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

Celebrant and People together may say

**We do not presume to come to this, your table, O merciful Lord,
trusting in our own righteousness,
but in your abundant and great mercies.**

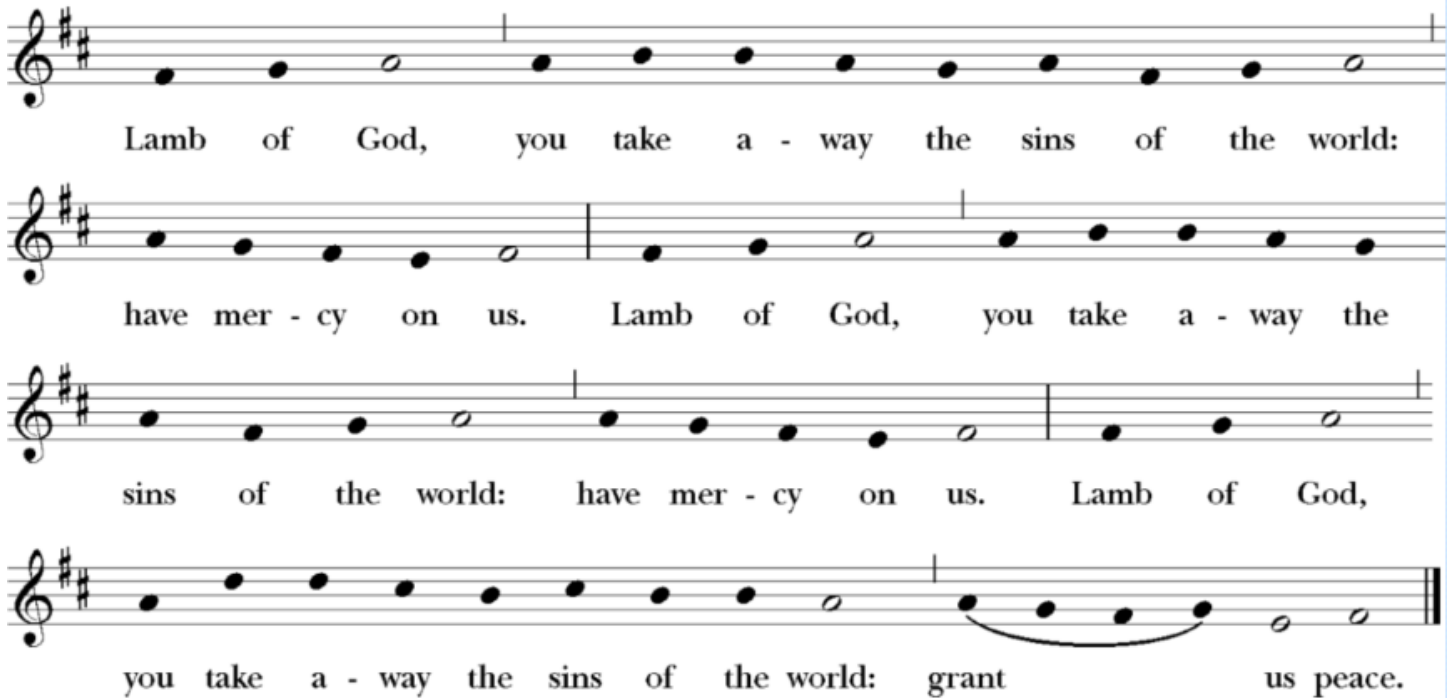
**We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table;
but you are the same Lord, whose character is always to have mercy.**

Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord,

so to eat the flesh of your 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 AGNUS DEI

The following or some other suitable anthem may be sung or said here



Facing the People, the Celebrant may say the following invitation

Behold the Lamb of God, behold him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those who are invited to the marriage supper of the Lamb.

JOHN 1:29^T, REVELATION 19:9

The Ministers receive the Sacrament in both kinds...

Who Can Receive Holy Communion?

All persons who have been baptized in the Name of the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, are repentant of their sins, and are living in charity with their neighbor are welcome to receive Holy Communion at this altar. We welcome all others to come to the altar and receive of prayer of blessing. Please signify you would like to receive a blessing by crossing your arms over your chest at the rail.

COMMUNION HYMN: "You Are Mine"

1. I will come to you in the silence / I will lift you from all your fear / You will hear my voice / I claim you as my choice / be still and know I am here.

2. I am hope for all who are hope-less / I am eyes for all who long to see / In the shadows of the night / I will be your light, come and rest in me.

Refrain: Do not be afraid, I am with you / I have called you each by name / Come and follow me / I will bring you home / I lo - ve you and you are mine.

3. I am strength for all the despairing / healing for the ones who dwell in shame / All the blind will see / the lame will all run free / and all will know my name. Refrain

4. I am the Word that leads all to freedom / I am the peace the world cannot give / I will call your name / embracing all your pain / Stand up, now, walk, and live. Refrain

"My Shepherd Will Supply My Need"

Hymn 664

1. My Shepherd will supply my need: / (The Lord God) is His Name / In pastures fresh He makes me feed, / Beside the living stream / He brings my wand'ring spirit back / When I forsake His ways / And leads me, for His mercy's sake, / In paths of truth and grace.

2. When I walk through the shades of death, / Thy presence is my stay; / One word of Thy supporting breath / Drives all my fears away. / Thy hand, in sight of all my foes, / Doth still my table spread; / My cup with blessings overflows, / Thine oil anoints my head.

3. The sure provisions of my God / Attend me all my days; / O may Thy house be my abode, / And all my work be praise! / There would I find a settled rest, / While others go and come; / No more a stranger, nor a guest, / But like a child at home.

"Day By Day"

Tune: Blott En Dag

1. Day by day and with each passing moment / Strength I find to meet my trials here / Trusting in my Father' wise bestowment / I've no cause for worry or for fear / He whose heart is kind beyond all measure / Gives unto each day what he deems best / Lovingly, its part of pain and pleasure / Mingling toil with pea-ce a-nd rest.

2. Ev'ry day the Lord himself is near me / With a special mercy for each house / All my cares he gladly bears and cheers me / He whose name is Counselor and Pow'r / The Protection of his child and treasure / Is a charge that on himself he laid / "As your days, your strength shall be in measure" / This the pledge to m-e h-e made.

"Let All Mortal Flesh" (Advent)

Hymnal 324 (verses 1-3)

1. Let all mortal flesh keep silence / And with fear and trembling stand / Ponder nothing earthly minded / For with blessing in His hand / Christ our God to earth descendeth / Our full homage to demand.

2. King of kings yet born of Mary / As of old on earth He stood / Lord of lords in human nature / In the body and the blood / He will give to all the faithful / His own self for heav'nly food.

3. Rank on rank the host of heaven / spreads its vanguard on the way / as the Light of light descendeth / from the realms of endless day / that the pow'rs of hell may vanish / as the darkness clears away.

A PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

BCP 677

Dear Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament. I love you above all things, and I desire to possess you within my soul. And since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, I beseech you to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to you, together with all your faithful people [gathered around every altar of your Church], and I embrace you with all the affections of my soul. Never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

After Communion, the Celebrant says

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People together say the following, or the Post Communion prayer in the Anglican Standard Text

Almighty and everliving God,
 we thank you for feeding us, in these holy mysteries,
 with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood
 of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
 and for assuring us, through this Sacrament, of your favor and goodness towards us:
 that we are true members of the mystical body of your Son,
 the blessed company of all faithful people;
 and are also heirs, through hope,
 of your everlasting kingdom.
 And we humbly ask you, heavenly Father,
 to assist us with your grace,
 that we may continue in that holy fellowship,
 and do all the good works that you have prepared for us to walk in;
 through Jesus Christ our Lord,
 to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit,
 be all honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

THE BLESSING

The Priest gives the following 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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Saint Matthias News

We invite you to join us after worship today at Fellowship Hour for a Luncheon with Bishop Eric, who will also be giving a presentation about the Capital Campaign for purchasing property for the Diocesan Cathedral.



Our nomination period for 2025 Delegates & Vestry Members will continue through 1/6/26. To learn more about the qualifications or to make a nomination, please visit www.saintmatthiasoakdale.com/nomination or the QR Code.



The Winter Session of Life Groups is coming up and we are seeking to determine whether there is interest in an Evening Group. Our Winter Groups will launch in early January and stretch through the second week of February. An evening group would be led by Dcn Dolores, and it has not yet been determined whether it would be an in-person, zoom, or hybrid format; but if held at the Church it would include chapel for any children of participants during the meeting. If you have any level interest, let us know by filling out the form at the QR Code no later than Sunday, 12/21.



At last Sunday's meeting, the ACW elected new officers: Vickie Looney as President, Nan Gravel as VP, Martha Simonton as Secretary, Traci Yazembiak as Treasurer, & Prudence Harding-Keeney for PR. The next meeting is Sunday, January 4 at 11:30am. Any women of the parish are welcome to join.

This Week at Saint Matthias

- Today - Fellowship Hour - after worship
- Monday - Kairos Group - 3:00-4:15pm
- Tuesday - Kairos Group - 7:00-8:15pm
- Thursday - KG 2.0 - 7:00-8:15pm

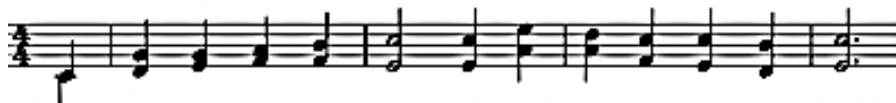
...AND BEYOND

- Wednesday, Dec. 24 - Christmas Eve Mass w/ Kids' Chapel - 5pm
- Saturday, January 24 - Intro to CGS - 9am-5pm
- Sunday, February 1 - Parish Annual Meeting - following Worship
- Tuesday, February 17 - Shrove Tuesday
- Wednesday, Feb. 18 - Ash Wednesday
- Wednesdays 2/25-3/25 - Lenten Wednesdays for adults & children in the Evening

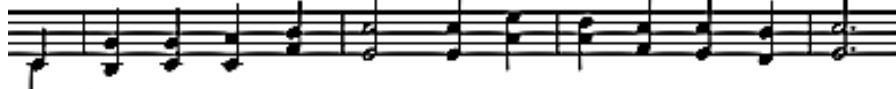


RECESSIONAL HYMN: "Hail to the Lord's Anointed"

Tune: "All Glory, Laud, & Honor"



1. Hail to the Lord's a - nointed - ed, great Da - vid's great - er Son!
3. He shall come down like show - ers up - on the fruit - ful earth;
6. For Him shall prayer un - ceas - ing, and dai - ly vows as - cend;
7. O'er eve - ry foe vic - to - rious, He on His throne shall rest,



Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, His reign on earth be - gun!
and love, joy, hope, like flow - ers, spring in His path to birth;
His king - dom still in - creas - ing, a king - dom with - out end;
from age to age more glo - rious, all - bless - ing and all - blessed;



He comes to break op - pres - sion, to set the cap - tive free,
 be - fore Him on the moun - tains shall peace, the her - ald, go;
 the moun - tain dews shall nour - ish a seed in weak - ness sown,
 the tide of time shall nev - er His cov - e - nant re - move;
 to take a - way trans - gres - sion, and rule in eq - ui - ty.
 and right - eous - ness, in foun - tains, from hill to val - ley flow.
 whose fruit shall spread and flour - ish, and shake like Leb - a - non.
 His name shall stand for - ev - er— that name to us is Love.

THE DISMISSAL

The Deacon, or the Priest, may dismiss the people with these words, omitting Alleluia during Lent and on other penitential occasions.

Deacon Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Christmas Poinsettias & Greenery

Poinsettias \$15 each or Greenery \$25 each

Your Name: _____ Amount: \$ _____

Dedication for Bulletin: _____

Musical Settings are modified from the 1982 Hymnal. The Gloria in Excelsis (S-280) by Robert Powell, the Doxology (380, v.3) by Isaac Watts, the Sursum Corda (S-120) by James McGregor, the Sanctus (S-130) and the Agnus Dei (S-164) by Franz Peter Schubert.

“Anglican Standard Text”

Adapted from the *The Book of Common Prayer, 2019* of The Anglican Church in North America

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