



St. Matthew's Episcopal Church

Diocese of West Missouri
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The Rev. William Jeff Hurst, Rector
Sherry Minzey, Administrative Assistant, Remote
Patti McGill, Music Director

Vision & Mission

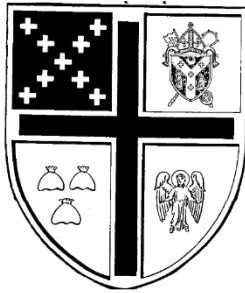
Vision

We are a community that seeks to serve Christ in all people through
God's forgiving love.

Mission

We are here:

To offer sanctuary, acceptance and forgiveness
To strengthen and encourage each other
To advocate for and empower those in need, and
To worship, pray and grow in Christ.



First Sunday after Christmas
The Holy Eucharist Rite Two
Sunday, December 31, 2023

PRELUDE

The Word of God

Entrance Rite

ENTRANCE HYMN *How bright appears the Morning Star* **H 497**
Words, William Mercer; Music, Philipp Nicolai, Johann Sebastian Bach

The musical score is written for a four-part choir (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of staves. The first system contains the first three lines of the hymn, and the second system contains the last three lines. The lyrics are printed below the vocal staves, with each line of music corresponding to a line of text. The music features a mix of single notes, chords, and some melodic lines with eighth and sixteenth notes. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4.

1 How bright ap - pears the Morn-ing Star, with mer - cy beam - ing
2 Though cir - cled by the hosts on high, he deigned to cast a
3 Re - joice, ye heavens; thou earth, re - ply; with praise, ye sin - ners,

from a - far; the host of heaven re - joic - es;
pit - ying eye up - on his help - less crea - ture;
fill the sky, for this his In - car - na - tion.

O right-eous Branch, O Jes-se's Rod! Thou Son of Man and
the whole cre-a-tion's Head and Lord, by high-est ser-a-
In-car-nate God, put forth thy power, ride on, ride on, great

Son of God! We, too, will lift our voic-es:
phim a-dored, as-sumed our ve-ry na-ture;
Con-quer-or, till all know thy sal-va-tion.

Je-sus, Je-sus! Ho-ly, ho-ly, yet most low-ly,
Je-sus, grant us, through thy mer-it, to in-her-it
A-men, a-men! Al-le-lu-ia, al-le-lu-ia!

draw thou near us; great Em-man-uel, come and hear us.
thy sal-va-tion; hear, O hear our sup-pli-ca-tion.
Praise be giv-en ev-er-more, by earth and hea-ven.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

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.*

KYRIE

S 96

Setting from Deutsche Messe, Franz Peter Schubert; arr. Richard Proulx

The musical score is written for Soprano (S) and Bass (B) voices. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has two staves. The Soprano staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of two sharps (F# and C#). The Bass staff begins with a bass clef and the same key signature. Both staves have a common time signature. The lyrics for the first system are: "Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy." The second system also has two staves. The Soprano staff begins with a treble clef and a key signature of two sharps. The Bass staff begins with a bass clef and the same key signature. The lyrics for the second system are: "Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, -".

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy.

Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy. Lord, -

Christ, have mer - cy. Christ, have mer - cy.

Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy. Lord, have mer - cy, have mer - cy.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Lessons

FIRST READING: Isaiah 61:10--62:3

A Reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD,
my whole being shall exult in my God;

for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation,
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

¹¹For as the earth brings forth its shoots,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up,
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
to spring up before all the nations.

^{62:1}For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest,
until her vindication shines out like the dawn,
and her salvation like a burning torch.

²The nations shall see your vindication,
and all the kings your glory;
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the LORD will give.

³You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the LORD,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 147:13-21

The People respond by half verse

¹³Worship the LORD, O Jerusalem; *
praise your God, O Zion;

¹⁴For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; *
he has blessed your children within you.

¹⁵He has established peace on your borders; *
he satisfies you with the finest wheat.

¹⁶He sends out his command to the earth, *
and his word runs very swiftly.

¹⁷He gives snow like wool; *
he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.

¹⁸He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; *
who can stand against his cold?

¹⁹He sends forth his word and melts them; *
he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.

²⁰He declares his word to Jacob, *
his statutes and his judgments to Israel.

²¹He has not done so to any other nation; *
to them he has not revealed his judgments.
Hallelujah!

SECOND READING: Galatians 3:23-25; 4:4-7

A Reading from Paul's letter to the Church in Galatia.

²³Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. ²⁴Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. ²⁵But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian.

^{4:4}But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, ⁵in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. ⁶And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" ⁷So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

ALLELUIA

Refrain

Joe Wise, 1966, 1973

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,

B \flat E \flat B \flat E \flat Cm⁷ F⁷

al - le - lu - ia, al-le - lu-ia, al-le - lu - ia.

B \flat E \flat B \flat Cm F⁷ B \flat

Verse

We will hear your Word, one in love; we will live your Word,

B \flat E \flat B \flat Dm E \flat

To refrain

one in love; we will spread your Word, one in love.

B \flat E \flat Cm B \flat To refrain

GOSPEL: John 1:1-18

Priest The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.
People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being ⁴in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

¹⁰He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. ¹²But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, ¹³who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵(John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.'") ¹⁶From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

Priest The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

FR. JEFF HURST

THE CREED

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:
by the power of the Holy Spirit
he became incarnate from 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.
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped 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 PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

All sit.

Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church;
That we all may be one.

Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;
That your Name may be glorified by all people.

We pray for our Presiding Bishop Michael, our Bishop Diane, and all bishops, priests, and deacons;

That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

We pray for our President Joseph, our Governor Michael, and all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

That our works may find favor in your sight

Have compassion on those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

That they may be delivered from their distress.

For those who are ill or for whom our prayers have been requested and those whose names are on our parish intercession list, and those whose names were added this week, and for those now mentioned by this congregation.

We remember our police force, first responders, medical personnel and educators.

That they would be effective in all their labors and service for our community

Give to the departed eternal rest;

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

We give thanks for those who celebrate birthdays this week, and for those celebrating anniversaries.

Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

Silence

The People may add their own petitions.

Heavenly Father, you have promised to hear what we ask in the Name of your Son: Accept and fulfill our petitions, we pray, not as we ask in our ignorance, nor as we deserve in our sinfulness, but as you know and love us in your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

PARISH PRAYER

In unison

Heavenly Father, pour down your Holy Spirit upon this Parish, and grant us a new vision of your glory, a new experience of your power, a new faithfulness to your Word, a new consecration to your service so that, through our renewed witness, your Holy Name may be glorified and your Kingdom advanced; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

O Creator God, giver of every good gift, look graciously on us in the Diocese of West Missouri and guide us as we discern our call of a new bishop. O Jesus, be present in our discernment, and lead us to a shepherd who will invite us to live out the Gospel every day. O Holy Spirit, inspire us with your wisdom, and kindle our hearts with the fire of your love, that we may be renewed as we prepare to welcome the ministry of our next bishop. This we ask trusting in You. Amen."

CONFESSION OF SIN

The Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Minister and People

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 Priest stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

THE PEACE

All stand.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Holy Communion

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

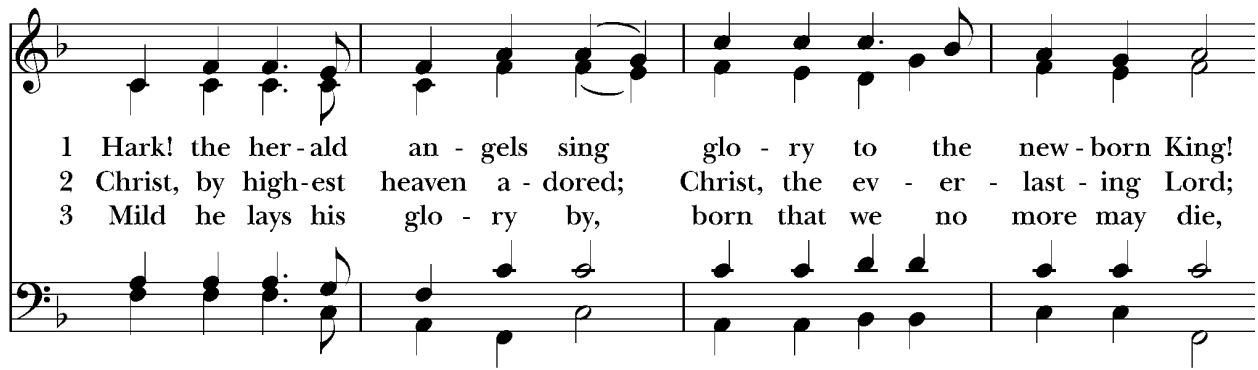
Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

OFFERTORY HYMN

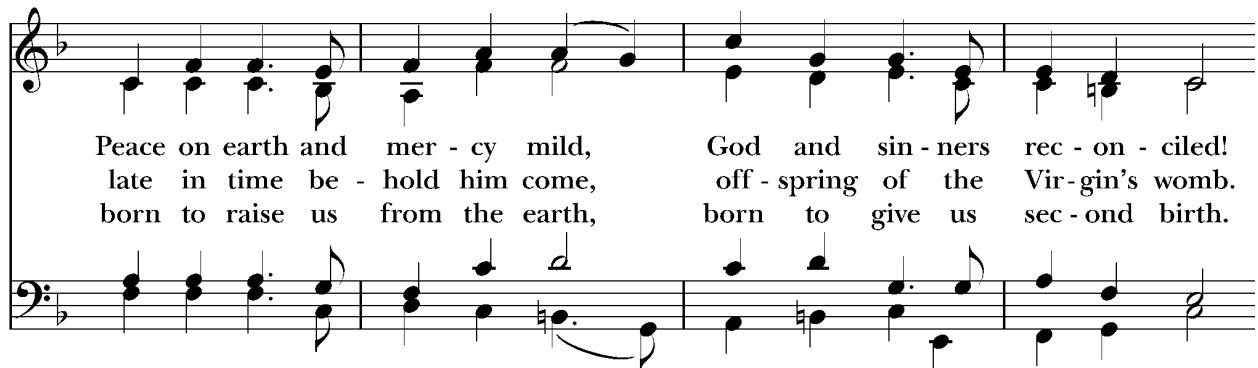
Hark! the herald angels sing

H 87

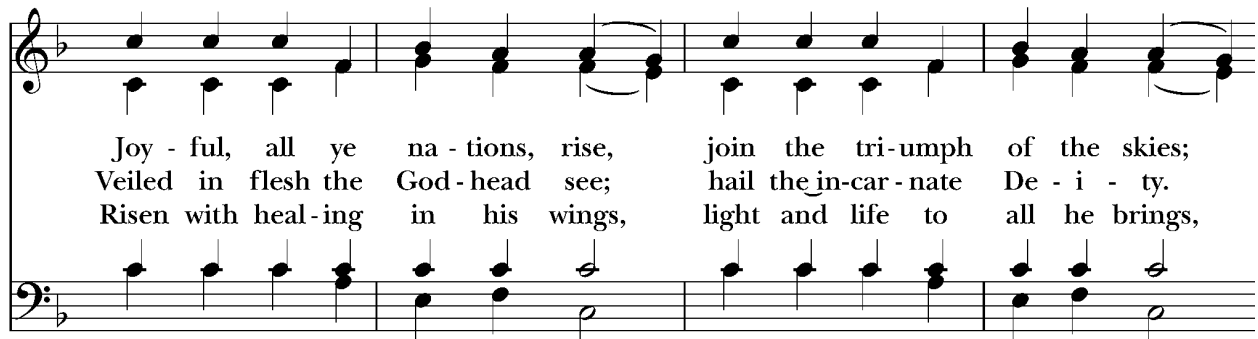
Words, Charles Wesley; Music, Felix Mendelssohn



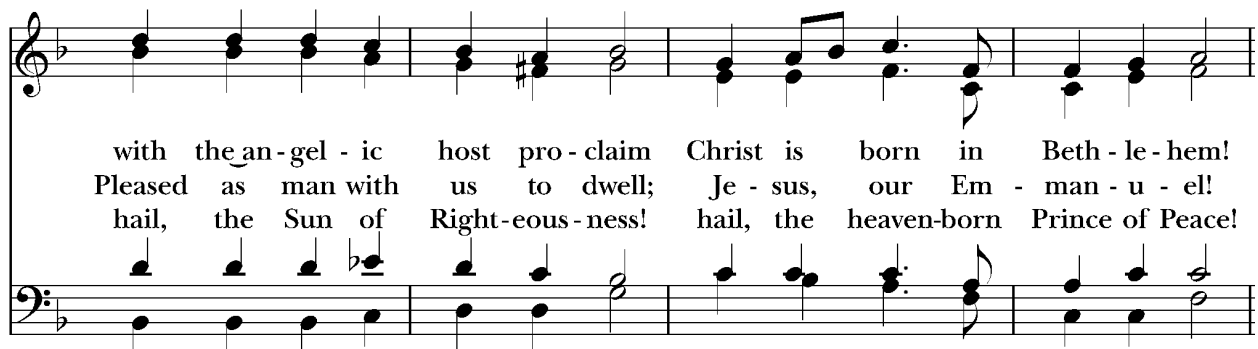
1 Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new - born King!
 2 Christ, by high - est heaven a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord;
 3 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!
 late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.
 born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.



Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;
 Veiled in flesh the God - head see; hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty.
 Risen with heal - ing in his wings, light and life to all he brings,



with the an - gel - ic host pro - claim Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!
 Pleased as man with us to dwell; Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!
 hail, the Sun of Right - eous - ness! hail, the heaven - born Prince of Peace!

Refrain



Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new - born King!

DOXOLOGY

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow H 380

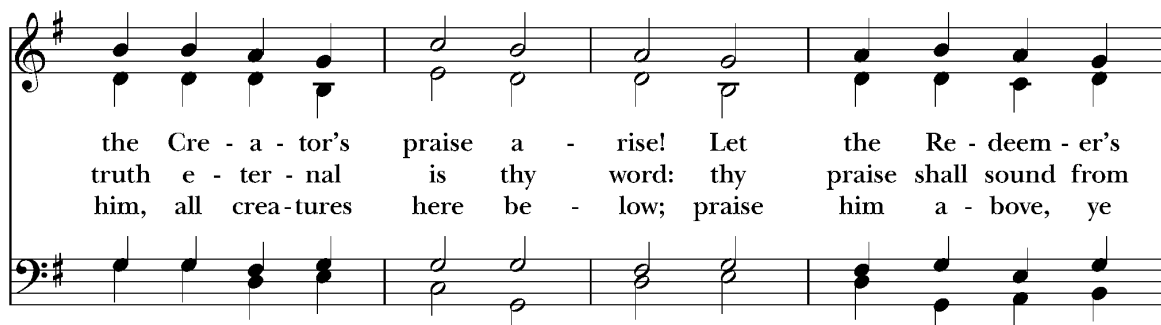
Vs. 3

Words, Issac Watts; music, Old 100th

Choir will sing the Amen



1 From all that dwell be - low the skies let
2 E - ter - nal are thy mer - cies, Lord, and
*3 Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; praise



the Cre - a - tor's praise a - rise! Let the Re - deem - er's
truth e - ter - nal is thy word: thy praise shall sound from
him, all crea - tures here be - low; praise him a - bove, ye



Name be sung through ev - ery land, by ev - ery tongue!
shore to shore till suns shall rise and set no more.
heaven - ly host: praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost.

Priest : All things come of thee O Lord
People : And of thine own we have given thee.

The Great Thanksgiving

SURSUM CORDA

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People We lift them to the Lord.
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

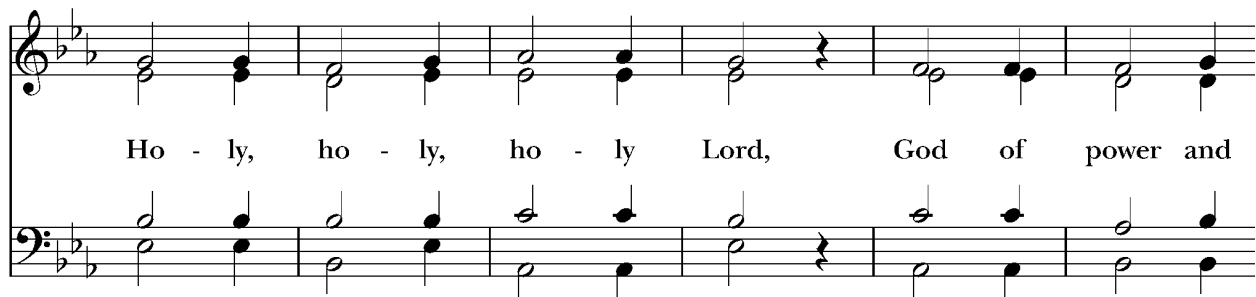
Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

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:

SANCTUS

S 130

Setting from Deutsche Messe, Franz Peter Schubert; arr. Richard Proulx



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and

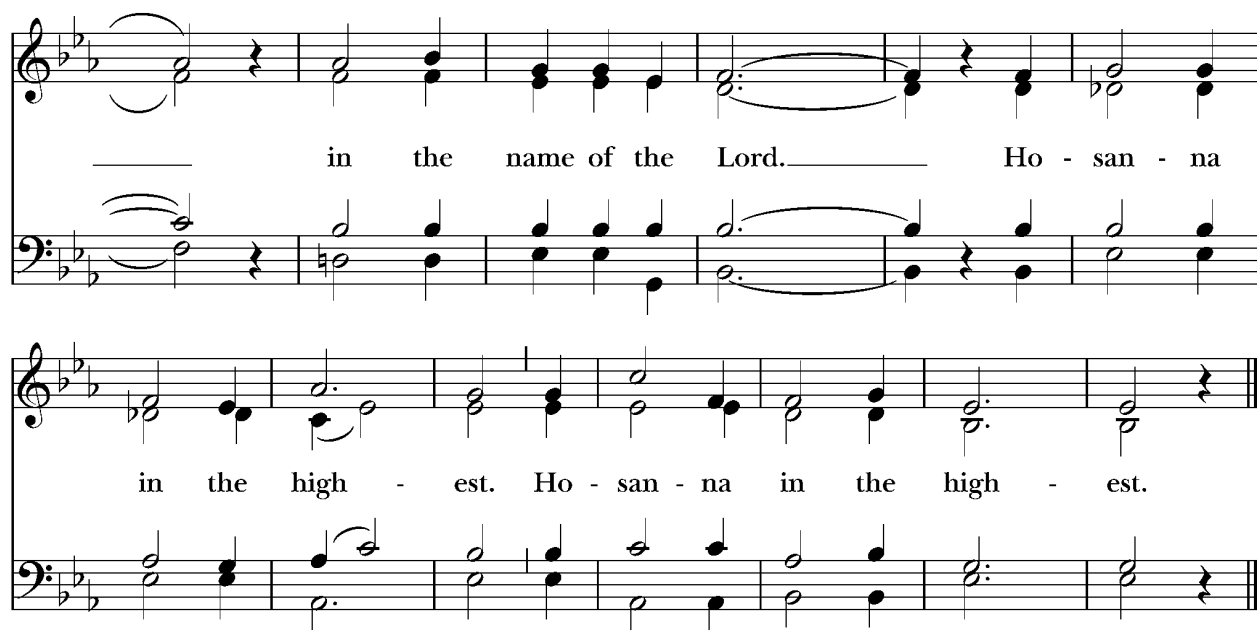
might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are

full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -

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

in the high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes



Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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 we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise

and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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

And now, as our Savior Christ has 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 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 Breaking of the Bread

FRACTION ANTHEM

Jesus, Lamb of God

S-164

Setting from Deutsche Messe, Franz Peter Schubert; arr. Richard Proulx

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:

give us your peace, give us your peace.

HUMBLE ACCESS

In unison

Celebrant and People

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 Celebrant says

The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts
 by faith, with thanksgiving.

DISTRIBUTION

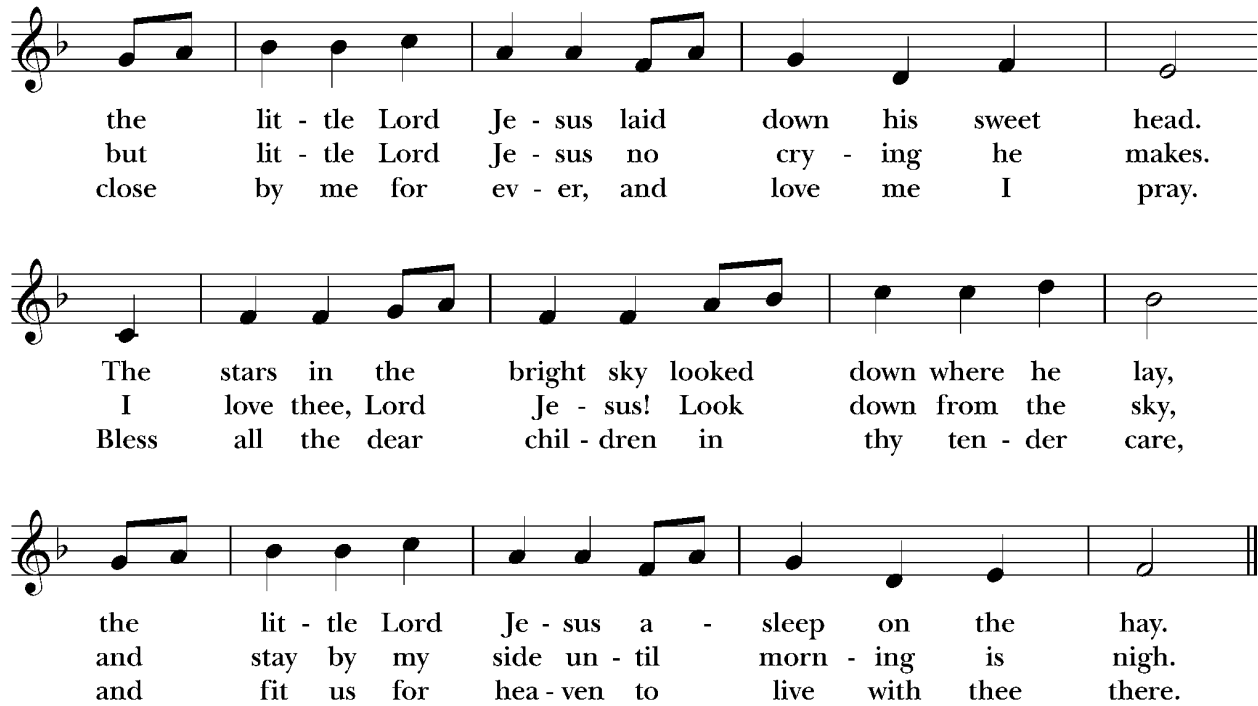
The Body (Blood) of our Lord Jesus Christ keep you in everlasting life. [*Amen.*]

Communion for those streaming.

The bread of heaven. The cup of salvation.

COMMUNION HYMN *Away in a manger, no crib for his bed* **H 101**
Words, Traditional Carol; music, William Kirkpatrick, harm.
Ralph Vaughan Williams

1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed,
 2 The cat - tle are low - ing, the ba - by a - wakes,
 * 3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask thee to stay



the lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head.
but lit - tle Lord Je - sus no cry - ing he makes.
close by me for ev - er, and love me I pray.

The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
I love thee, Lord Je - sus! Look down from the sky,
Bless all the dear chil - dren in thy ten - der care,

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
and stay by my side un - til morn - ing is nigh.
and fit us for hea - ven to live with thee there.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

BLESSING

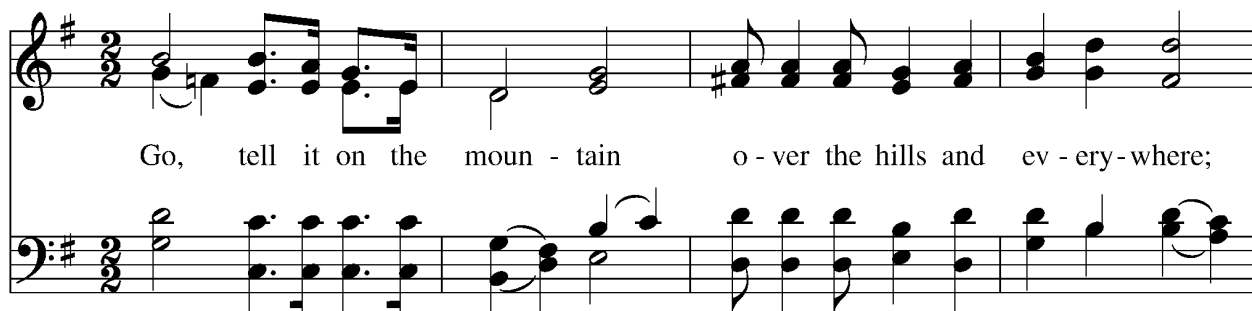
The blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon
you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

POST-COMMUNION HYMN

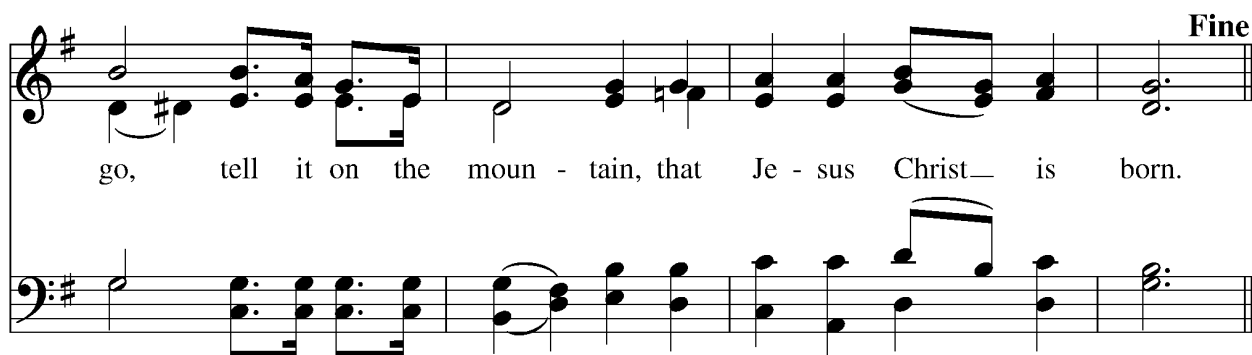
Go, Tell It on the Mountain

LEVAS 21

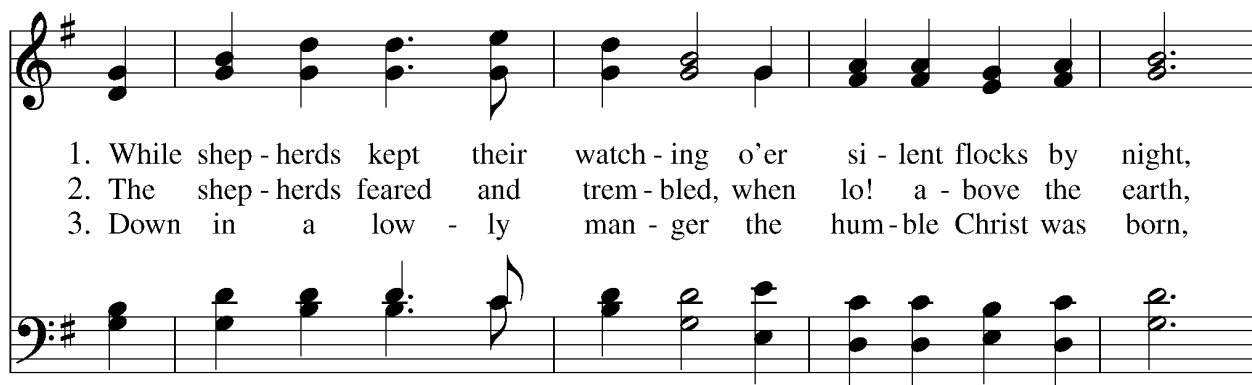
Words, Luke 2:8-20, John W. Work; Music, William Farley Smith



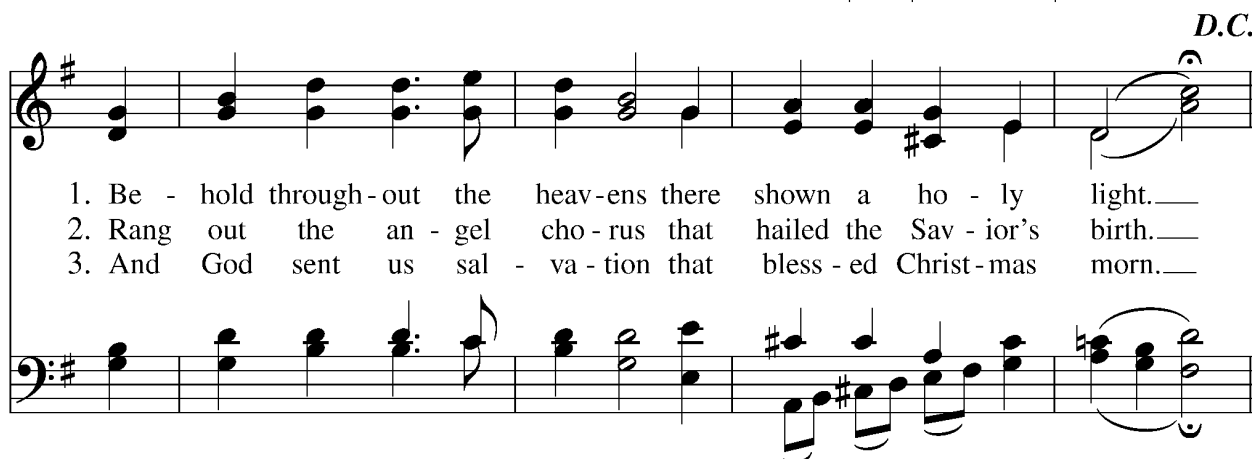
Go, tell it on the moun - tain o - ver the hills and ev - ery - where;



go, tell it on the moun - tain, that Je - sus Christ — is born.



1. While shep - herds kept their watch - ing o'er si - lent flocks by night,
2. The shep - herds feared and trem - bled, when lo! a - bove the earth,
3. Down in a low - ly man - ger the hum - ble Christ was born,



1. Be - hold through - out the heav - ens there shown a ho - ly light. —
2. Rang out the an - gel cho - rus that hailed the Sav - ior's birth. —
3. And God sent us sal - va - tion that bless - ed Christ - mas morn. —

DISMISSAL

Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People Thanks be to God.

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Announcements

First Sunday after Christmas This Week		
Sunday	10:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist Rite II
	11:00 a.m.	Coffee Hour
Wednesday		Evening Prayer
Sunday Jan. 7 th	10:00 a.m.	Holy Eucharist Rite II
	11:00 a.m.	Coffee Hour

Everyone Welcome! If you are a newcomer, please take a moment to sign the register sheet in the pad at the end of each pew, and be so kind as to give us your address and email. Please know you are most welcome to fully participate. Join us for Coffee Hour, and we hope you come again soon.

January 8, 2024, Annual Reports will be due from Vestry and all Committee Chairs. Please email your reports in Word (doc) format. If you need a prior year report, contact Sherry. Thank you!

A change in the Altar Flowers or the Sanctuary Candle offering sign-up. If you wish to offer either the Altar Flowers or Sanctuary Candle, please email Sherry, sminzey.stmatt@gmail.com. The candle contribution is \$5.00 and the flower contribution is \$35.00 per vase (please note change in price). Flowers at the altar are made possible only by your special contributions, as no Parish operating funds are used for this purpose.

The individual intercessions for persons on the **Parish Prayer List** can be found on the Narthex table. You are invited to take a copy of this list for your own prayers during the week. If you wish to submit a name to be included on the prayer list, please email Sherry at: sminzey.stmatt@gmail.com