

*Please be seated as the choir sings the Call to Worship*

**CALL TO WORSHIP:** Taste and see

James Moore

*The people, standing*

**PRELUDE:** Morceau

César Franck

## PRESENTATION OF THE WORD

*(Peoples' responses in bold)*

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**10:00 AM ALTAR COPY**

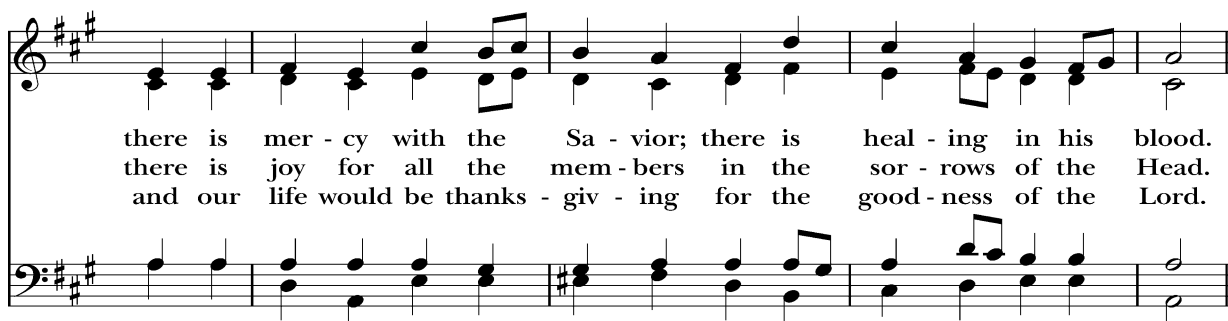
*The Altar Party begins in the Chancel.*

**HYMN 470:** There's a wideness in God's mercy

1 There's a wide-ness in God's mer - cy like the wide-ness of the sea;  
2 There is no place where earth's sor-rows are more felt than up in heaven;  
3 For the love of God is broad-er than the mea-sure of the mind;

there's a kind-ness in his jus-tice, which is more than lib - er - ty.  
there is no place where earth's fail-ings have such kind - ly judg-ment given.  
and the heart of the E - ter - nal is most won - der - ful - ly kind.

There is wel-come for the sin - ner, and more gra - ces for the good;  
There is plen - ti - ful re - demp-tion in the blood that has been shed;  
If our love were but more faith - ful, we should take him at his word;



there is mer - cy with the Sa - vior; there is heal - ing in his blood.  
there is joy for all the mem - bers in the sor - rows of the Head.  
and our life would be thanks - giv - ing for the good - ness of the Lord.

Words: Frederick William Faber (1814-1863), alt. Music: *Beecher*, John Zundel (1815-1882), alt.

## OPENING ACCLAMATION

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**Presider** Blessed be God: *[Sign of the cross]* Father, Son, and Holy Spirit  
**People** And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.


## COLLECT FOR PURITY

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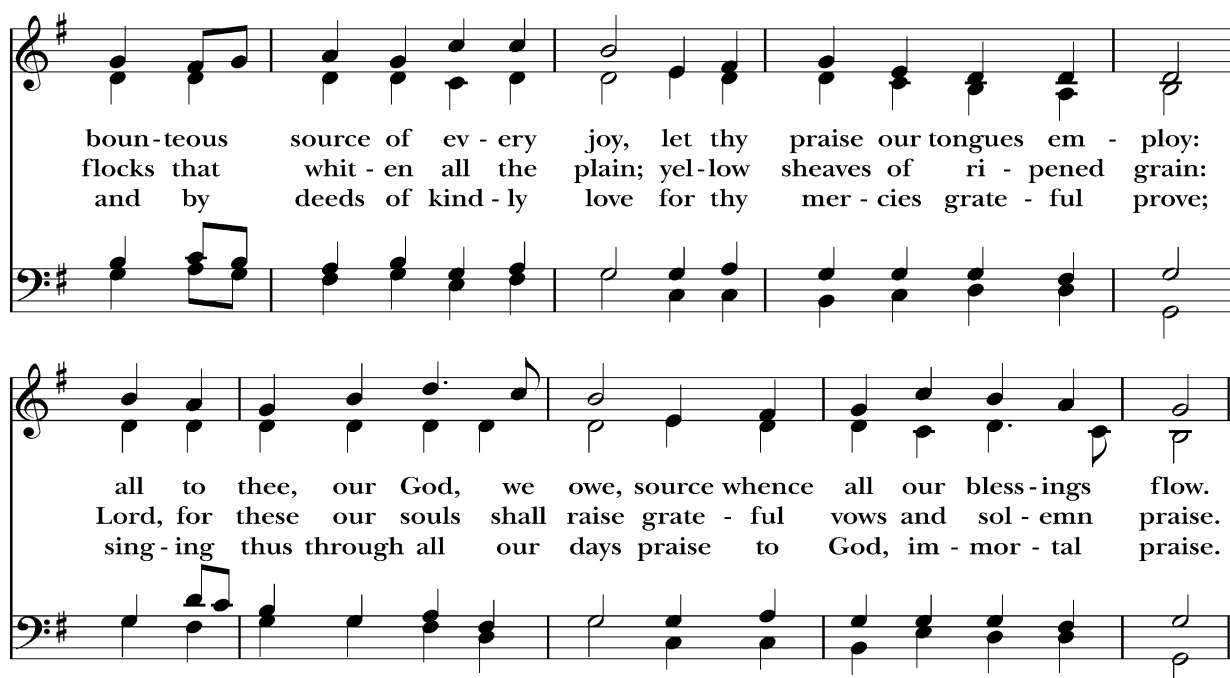
**Presider** *[Orans]* Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*Sung in unison*

**Song of Praise, HYMN 288 (vs. 1): Praise to God, immortal praise**



1 Praise to God, im - mor - tal praise, for the love that crowns our days;  
2 All the plen - ty sum - mer pours; au - tumn's rich o'er - flow - ing stores;  
3 As thy pros - per - ing hand hath blessed, may we give thee of our best;



boun-teous source of ev - ery joy, let thy praise our tongues em - ploy:  
flocks that whit - en all the plain; yel-low sheaves of ri - pened grain:  
and by deeds of kind - ly love for thy mer - cies grate - ful prove;

all to thee, our God, we owe, source whence all our bless - ings flow.  
Lord, for these our souls shall raise grate - ful vows and sol - emn praise.  
sing - ing thus through all our days praise to God, im - mor - tal praise.

Words: Anna Laetitia Barbauld (1743-1825). Music: *Dix*, melody Conrad Kocher (1786-1872); arr. William Henry Monk (1823-1889); harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1916.

## COLLECT OF THE DAY

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Presider *[Hands together]* The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Presider Let us pray.

O God, you declare your almighty power chiefly in showing mercy and pity: Grant us the fullness of your grace, that we, running to obtain your promises, may become partakers of your heavenly treasure; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The people, seated

**FIRST READING:** Esther 7:1-6, 9-10; 9:20-22

Reader A reading from the book of Esther.

The king and Haman went in to feast with Queen Esther. On the second day, as they were drinking wine, the king again said to Esther, “What is your petition, Queen Esther? It shall be granted you. And what is your request? Even to the half

of my kingdom, it shall be fulfilled.” Then Queen Esther answered, “If I have won your favor, O king, and if it pleases the king, let my life be given me— that is my petition— and the lives of my people— that is my request. For we have been sold, I and my people, to be destroyed, to be killed, and to be annihilated. If we had been sold merely as slaves, men and women, I would have held my peace; but no enemy can compensate for this damage to the king.” Then King Ahasuerus said to Queen Esther, “Who is he, and where is he, who has presumed to do this?” Esther said, “A foe and enemy, this wicked Haman!” Then Haman was terrified before the king and the queen.

Then Harbona, one of the eunuchs in attendance on the king, said, “Look, the very gallows that Haman has prepared for Mordecai, whose word saved the king, stands at Haman's house, fifty cubits high.” And the king said, “Hang him on that.” So they hanged Haman on the gallows that he had prepared for Mordecai. Then the anger of the king abated.

Mordecai recorded these things, and sent letters to all the Jews who were in all the provinces of King Ahasuerus, both near and far, enjoining them that they should keep the fourteenth day of the month Adar and also the fifteenth day of the same month, year by year, as the days on which the Jews gained relief from their enemies, and as the month that had been turned for them from sorrow into gladness and from mourning into a holiday; that they should make them days of feasting and gladness, days for sending gifts of food to one another and presents to the poor.

**Reader**      The Word of the Lord.

**People**      **Thanks be to God.**

*Sung in unison, beginning after the asterisk in the first verse*

**RESPONSE:** Psalm 124, *Nisi quia Dominus*

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1 If the Lord had not been on our / side, \*  
let Israel now / say;

- 2 If the Lord had not been on our / side, \*  
when enemies rose up a- / gainst us;  
3 Then would they have swallowed us up a- / live \*  
in their fierce anger / toward us;  
4 Then would the waters have over- / whelmed us \*  
and the torrent gone / over us;  
5 Then would the raging / waters \*  
have gone right / over us.  
6 Blessed be the / Lord! \*  
he has not given us over to be a prey for their / teeth.  
7 We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the / fowler; \*  
the snare is broken, and we have es- / scaped.  
8 Our help is in the Name of the / Lord, \*  
the maker of heaven and / earth.

**SECOND READING:** James 5:13-20

*Reader* A reading from the letter of James.

Are any among you suffering? They should pray. Are any cheerful? They should sing songs of praise. Are any among you sick? They should call for the elders of the church and have them pray over them, anointing them with oil in the name of the Lord. The prayer of faith will save the sick, and the Lord will raise them up; and anyone who has committed sins will be forgiven. Therefore confess your sins to one another, and pray for one another, so that you may be healed. The prayer of the righteous is powerful and effective. Elijah was a human being like us, and he prayed fervently that it might not rain, and for three years and six months it did not rain on the earth. Then he prayed again, and the heaven gave rain and the earth yielded its harvest.

My brothers and sisters, if anyone among you wanders from the truth and is brought back by another, you should know that whoever brings back a sinner from wandering will save the sinner's soul from death and will cover a multitude of sins.

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

**People** Thanks be to God.

# HYMN 566: From thee all skill and science flow

1 From thee all skill and sci-ence flow, all pi - ty, care, and love,  
2 And has-ten, Lord, that per-fect day when pain and death shall cease,

all calm and cour-age, faith and hope: O pour them from a - bove!  
and thy just rule shall fill the earth with health and light and peace;

Im - part them, Lord, to each and all, as each and all shall need,  
when ev - er - blue the sky shall gleam, and ev - er-green the sod,

to rise, like in - cense, each to thee, in no - ble thought and deed.  
and our rude work de - face no more the hand - i - work of God.

Words: Charles Kingsley (1819-1875), alt. Music: *The Church's Desolation*, traditional melody; harm. J. T. White (19th cent.); adapt. C. H. Cayce (19th-20th cent.).

*The people, standing as able through the Gospel Reading*

*[The presider moves to the center of the altar table, retrieves the Gospel Book, proceeds to the lectern, signs the cross over the altar book, and begins]*

**THE GOSPEL:** Mark 9:38-50

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

**People** **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

John said to Jesus, “Teacher, we saw someone casting out demons in your name, and we tried to stop him, because he was not following us.” But Jesus said, “Do not stop him; for no one who does a deed of power in my name will be able soon afterward to speak evil of me. Whoever is not against us is for us. For truly I tell you, whoever gives you a cup of water to drink because you bear the name of Christ will by no means lose the reward.

“If any of you put a stumbling block before one of these little ones who believe in me, it would be better for you if a great millstone were hung around your neck and you were thrown into the sea. If your hand causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life maimed than to have two hands and to go to hell, to the unquenchable fire. And if your foot causes you to stumble, cut it off; it is better for you to enter life lame than to have two feet and to be thrown into hell. And if your eye causes you to stumble, tear it out; it is better for you to enter the kingdom of God with one eye than to have two eyes and to be thrown into hell, where their worm never dies, and the fire is never quenched.

“For everyone will be salted with fire. Salt is good; but if salt has lost its saltiness, how can you season it? Have salt in yourselves, and be at peace with one another.”

**Gospeller** The Gospel of the Lord.

**People** **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

*[The Presider returns the Gospel Book to the stand on the Altar Table and returns to the lectern to begin the sermon]*

**\*\*\*\*\*All children are now invited to follow the Cross to Children’s Chapel.\*\*\*\*\***

*The people, seated*

**THE SERMON:** The Rev. E. Weston

*The people, standing as able*

**THE NICENE CREED** *(In unison)*

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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, *[low bow]* 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 *[low bow]*:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man. *[Stand erect]*  
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 *[Sign of the cross]* of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.



*The leader proclaims the prayers and says, “Christ, in your mercy;” the people respond, “**Hear our prayer.**”*

*The people, standing as able*

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

*Leader* Open our eyes to see that all we are and all we have comes from you, O God. We ask you now to increase in us a spirit of generosity and holy imagination. Christ, in your mercy,

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Open our lips with your praise as we gather as the body of Christ. Keep the leaders of our faith community deeply connected to you that you may guide our course as we journey together. We pray for all bishops—especially Justin, Michael, Sean, Mark, Gayle, and Isaac, for all deacons, and all who support the work you have given us to do. Christ, in your mercy,

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Open our spirits to remember that you are with us in our greetings and our farewells. Grant us grace as we commend those we have cared for to new ministries and support this congregation in its new leadership. Bless David as he responds to new ministries in his calling to be faithful. Christ, in your mercy,

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Open the hearts of the leaders of the world. Give them courage to work for a better future of justice, kindness, and connection for the people they serve, especially for Gerry our Representative, for Tim and Mark our Senators, for Joe our President, for the justices and judges of the federal courts, for Kristin our delegate and Jennifer our Senator to the state legislature, and for the justices and judges of the commonwealth courts. Open the path for peace and abundance for all. Christ, in your mercy,

*People* **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader* Open the hands of your people to reach out in love to those around the world who are in fear for their lives, who face turbulent conditions

caused by nature, and whose daily lives are made difficult by their circumstances: people in the United States of America, people of the Ezo Diocese, Afghanistan, China, Gaza, Iran, Israel, Lebanon, the Palestinian Authority, Qatar, Russia, Ukraine, and the West Bank. May your love be manifest through us. Christ, in your mercy,

**People**      **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader*      Open a path to wholeness for those who live in fear of any kind, who have lost their way, whose spirits are restless, whose bodies are hurting. We beseech you to care for: Grace, Jennie [Jeannie"], Sofia and Larry, Valerie, Rick, Debra, Eileen, Cathy, Taylor, Nancy, Annette, Justin, Toni, Isaac, Elie [“EE-lee”], Kelly and Alex, Kelly, Nancy, Gene, Nick and Hilary, Linn, Joe and Molly, Steve, Ellen, and Dut. Christ, in your mercy,

**People**      **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader*      Open your arms to embrace those who have died, [especially N.N.] Grant them an entrance to your eternal kingdom, where there is no pain or grief. Christ, in your mercy,

**People**      **Hear our prayer.**

*Leader*      We ask your prayers of thanksgiving for the Altar Flowers, given to the glory of God, by Joe & Molly Reynolds in celebration of their Wedding Anniversary. Christ, in your mercy,

**People**      **Hear our prayer.**

## CONCLUDING COLLECT

*Presider*      Direct us, O Lord, in all our doings with thy most gracious favor, and further us with thy continual help; that in all our works begun, continued, and ended in thee, we may glorify thy holy Name, and finally, by thy mercy, obtain everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

*The people, kneeling as able through the absolution*

## CONFESSION OF SIN

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*Presider* Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. *(Silence)*

***All*** 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.

## ABSOLUTION

*Presider* Almighty God have mercy on you *[Sign the cross]*, 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.**

## EXCHANGE OF THE PEACE

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*Presider* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

***People*** And also with you.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS, BIRTHDAYS, ANNIVERSARIES, AND LIFE TRANSITIONS

## CELEBRATION OF THE EUCHARIST

*Eucharist is an ongoing participation in and renewal of our Baptism. Come forward at the invitation of the ushers to share in this sacrament. **Gluten free host is available. Signify your desire to for this form of bread by placing your right-hand palm down on top of your left.***

*The people, seated, the alms plates are passed by the ushers.*

**OFFERTORY, Anthem: If Ye Love Me**

Philip Wilby

*The people, standing as able*

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (Eucharistic Prayer A)**

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*[Hands folded, facing the people, the Presider begins]*

The musical notation is presented in four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes, with 'Celebrant' and 'People' labels above the respective parts.

*Celebrant*                      *People*  
The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

*Celebrant*                      *People*  
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

*Celebrant*  
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

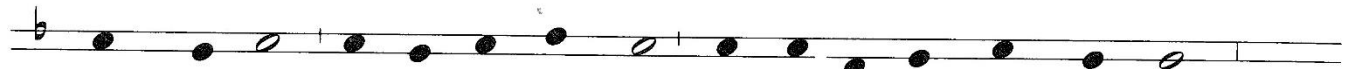
*People*  
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

[Orans]

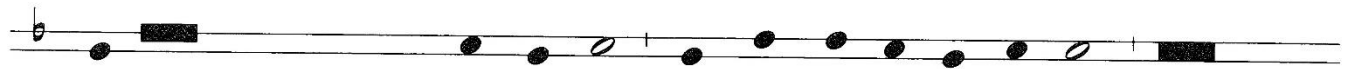
Presider



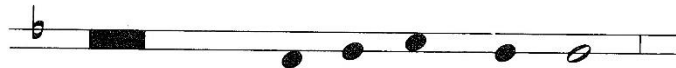
It is right and a good and joy - ful thing, al - ways and everywhere to give



thanks to you, Fa - ther Al - migh - ty, Cre - a - tor of heav'n and earth;



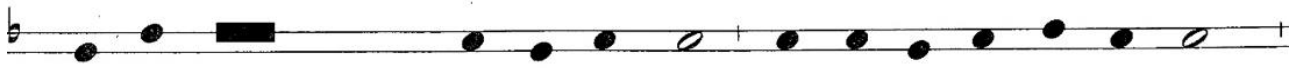
for you are the source of light and life, you made us in your im - age, and call'd us



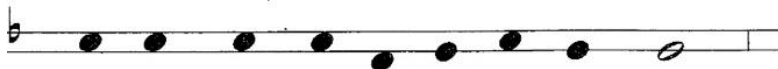
to new life in Je - sus Christ our Lord.



There - fore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Arch - an - gels



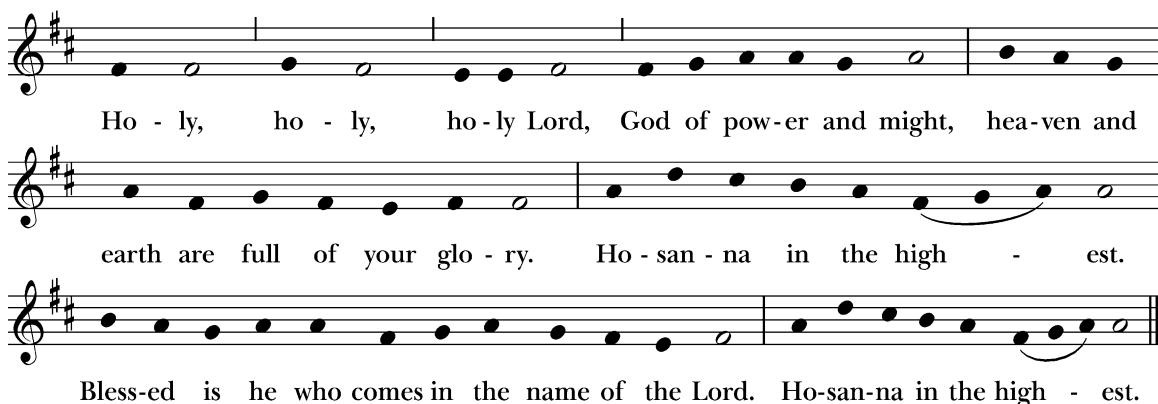
and with all the compa - ny of hea - ven who for ev - er sing this hymn



to pro - claim the glo - ry of your Name:

*Sung in unison*

**SANCTUS, S 124:** Holy, holy, holy Lord [*Hands folded*]



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

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. [*Bring your hands together*]

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

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread [*Hold the sides of the paten and next, tend to the gluten free 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." [*Bring your hands together*]

After supper he took the cup of wine [*Take hold of the chalice, then tend to the cruet*]; 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." [*Bring your hands together*]

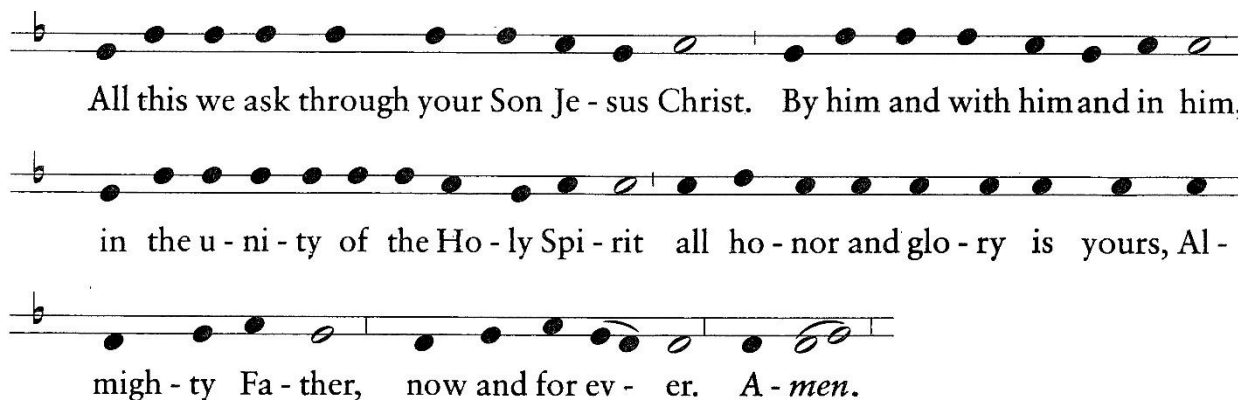
Therefore *[Orans]* we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**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.

Sanctify *[Epiclesis]* 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 *[Bring you hands together]*. Sanctify *[Low bow]* 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.

*[Raise the paten and chalice over the table]*



*[Fold hands and low bow]*



*Intoned by the Presider and People*

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Presider And now, as our Savior Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say,



Our Father, who art in heaven, Hal-low-ed be thy name,



Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth, as it is in Heav-en



Give us this day our dai - ly bread, And forgive us our trespasses,



As we forgive those who tres-pass a-against us. And lead us not in - to



temp-ta-tion, but de-liv - er us from e - vil. For thine is the kingdom,



and the power and the glo - ry. For ev - er and ev - er, A - men.

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[Bring hands together]

[Pick the bread off the paten and break it, then hold it over the cup and say]

# FRACTION ANTHEM, S 158: Lamb of God, Agnus Dei

O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a -

way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up -

on us. O Lamb of God, that

ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have

mer - cy up - on us. O Lamb of

God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the

world, grant us thy peace.

Music: From *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*, Healey Willan (1880-1968). By permission of Oxford University Press.

[Point to the gifts and say]

COMMUNION INVITATION

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Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God. Behold what you are. Become what you receive.

*The Bread and the Cup are given to the communicants.*

HYMN 325: Let us break bread together on our knees




1 Let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees; \_\_\_\_\_  
2 Let us drink wine to - geth-er on our knees; \_\_\_\_\_



let us break bread to - geth-er on our knees; \_\_\_\_\_  
let us drink wine to - geth-er on our knees; \_\_\_\_\_


*Refrain*



when I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris - ing sun,



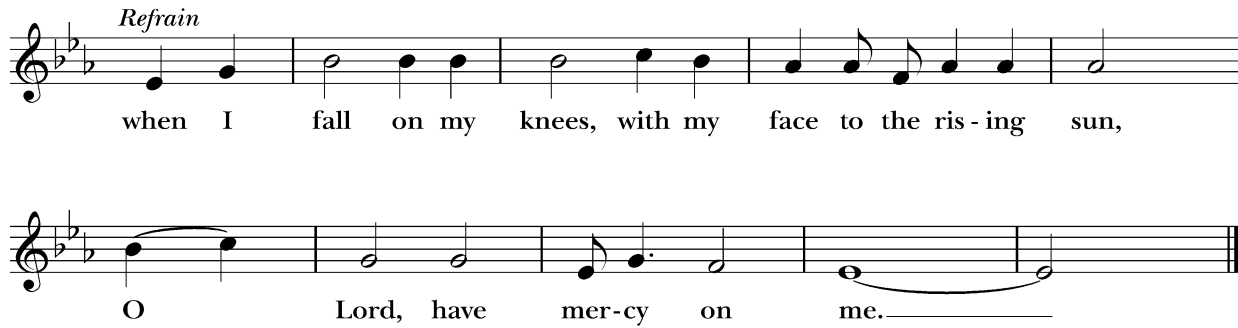
O Lord, have mer-cy on me. \_\_\_\_\_



3 Let us praise God to - geth-er on our knees; \_\_\_\_\_



let us praise God to - geth-er on our knees; \_\_\_\_\_



Words: African-American spiritual. Music: *Let Us Break Bread*, Afro-American spiritual; arr. and harm. David Hurd (b. 1950).

*The people, standing*

## POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

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*Presider* 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.**

## THE BLESSING

**Paraphrase of Henri-Frédéric Amiel**

*Presider* Life is short and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who are traveling the journey with us. So be swift to love, and make haste to be kind. And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Choir and Altar party recess from the church

**HYMN 556 (vs. 1,2,3): Rejoice, ye pure in heart!**

1 Re - joice, ye pure in heart! Re - joice, give thanks, and sing! Your  
2 With all the an - gel choirs, with all the saints of earth, pour  
3 Your clear ho - san - nas raise, and al - le - lu - ias loud; while  
4 Yes, on through life's long path, still chant - ing as ye go, from  
5 Still lift your stand - ard high, still march in firm ar - ray, as

1 glo - rious ban - ner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.  
2 out the strains of joy and bliss, true rap - ture, no - blest mirth.  
3 an - swering ech - oes up - ward float, like wreaths of in - cense cloud.  
4 youth to age, by night and day, in glad - ness and in woe.  
5 war - riors through the dark - ness toil, till dawns the gold - en day.

*Refrain*  
Re - joice, re - joice, re - joice, give thanks, and sing.  
re - joice, re - joice,

Words: Edward Hayes Plumptre (1821-1891). Music: *Marion*, Arthur Henry Messiter (1834-1916).

**DISMISSAL**

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

You are invited to remain seated for the postlude

**POSTLUDE: Postlude**

**Rob Peters**

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