

PRELUDE: Great Is Thy Faithfulness

arr. Dino Kartsonakis

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

CALL TO WORSHIP: People Look East

Eleanor Farjeon

ADVENT CANDLE BLESSING

Presider Let us pray.

Loving God, as we enter this Advent season we open all the dark places in our lives and memories to the healing light of Christ. Show us the power of **HOPE**. Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you that we may walk in the light of Christ. Amen.

PRESENTATION OF THE WORD

(Peoples' responses in bold)

BCP Page 355

10:00 AM ALTAR COPY

The people, standing

HYMN 56 (vs. 1, 2): O come, O come, Emmanuel



(Dec. 23) 1	O	come,	O	come,	Em - man	-	u - el,	and	ran - som
(Dec. 17) 2	O	come,	thou	Wis - dom	from		on high,	who	or - derest
(Dec. 18) 3	O	come,	O	come,	thou Lord		of might,	who	to thy
(Dec. 19) 4	O	come,	thou	Branch	of Jes	-	se's tree,	free	them from
(Dec. 20) 5	O	come,	thou	Key	of Da	-	vid, come,	and	o - pen
(Dec. 21) 6	O	come,	thou	Day - spring	from		on high,	and	cheer us
(Dec. 22) 7	O	come,	De - sire	of na	-	tions,	bind	in	one the
(Dec. 23) 8	O	come,	O	come,	Em - man	-	u - el,	and	ran - som



1	cap - tive	Is -	ra - el,	that	mourns	in	lone - ly	ex -	ile
2	all things	might	- i - ly;	to	us	the	path	of	know - ledge
3	tribes	on	Si - nai's	height	in	an - cient	times	didst	give
4	Sa - tan's	ty -	ran - ny	that	trust	thy	might - y	power	to
5	wide	our	heaven - ly	home;	make	safe	the	way	that
6	by	thy	draw - ing	nigh;	dis - perse	the	gloom - y	clouds	of
7	hearts	of	all	man - kind;	bid	thou	our	sad	di - vi - sions
8	cap - tive	Is -	ra - el,	that	mourns	in	lone - ly	ex -	ile



1 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
2 show, and teach us in her ways to go.
3 law, in cloud, and ma - jes - ty, and awe.
4 save, and give them vic - tory o'er the grave. Re - jice! Re - jice!
5 high, and close the path to mis - er - y.
6 night, and death's dark shad - ow put to flight.
7 cease, and be thy - self our King of Peace.
8 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.



Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

The stanzas may be used as antiphons with "The Song of Mary" on the dates given.

Words: Latin, ca. 9th cent.; ver. *Hymnal 1940*, alt. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*, plainsong, Mode 1, Processionale, 15th cent.; adapt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890); acc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937).

OPENING ACCLAMATION

BCP Page 355

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

BCP Page 355

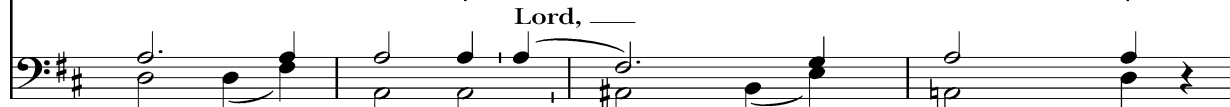
Presider *[Orans]* Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Sung in unison

S 96, Lord have mercy: Kyrie



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

Music: From *Deutsche Messe*; Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

COLLECT OF THE DAY

BCP Page 211

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

People **And also with you.**

Presider Let us pray.

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

The people, seated

FIRST READING: Jeremiah 33:14-16

Reader A reading from the book of the prophet Jeremiah.

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

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

RESPONSE: Psalm 25:1, 5-9, *Ad te, Domine, levavi*

BCP Page 614



- 1 To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul;
my God, I put my trust in / you; *
let me not be humiliated,
nor let my enemies triumph / over me.
- 5 Remember, O LORD, your compassion and / love, *
for they are from ever- / lasting.
- 6 Remember not the sins of my youth and my trans- / gressions; *
remember me according to your love
and for the sake of your goodness, O / LORD.
- 7 Gracious and upright is the / LORD; *
therefore he teaches sinners in his / way.
- 8 He guides the humble in doing / right *
and teaches his way to the / lowly.
- 9 All the paths of the LORD are love and / faithfulness *
to those who keep his covenant and his / testimonies.

SECOND READING: 1 Thessalonians 3:9-13

Reader A reading from Paul's first letter to the Thessalonians.

How can we thank God enough for you in return for all the joy that we feel before our God because of you? Night and day we pray most earnestly that we may see you face to face and restore whatever is lacking in your faith.

Now may our God and Father himself and our Lord Jesus direct our way to you. And may the Lord make you increase and abound in love for one another and for all, just as we abound in love for you. And may he so strengthen your hearts in holiness that you may be blameless before our God and Father at the coming of our Lord Jesus with all his saints.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

HYMN 66: Come, thou long expected Jesus

1 Come, thou long-ex-pect-ed Je-sus, born to set thy peo-ple free;
2 Is-rael's strength and con-so-la-tion, hope of all the earth thou art:
3 Born thy peo-ple to de-liv-er, born a child, and yet a king,
4 By thine own e-ter-nal Spi-rit, rule in all our hearts a-lone;

from our fears and sins re-lease us, let us find our rest in thee.
dear de-sire of ev-ery na-tion, joy of ev-ery long-ing heart.
born to reign in us for ev-er, now thy gra-cious king-dom bring.
by thine all-suf-fi-cient mer-it raise us to thy glo-rious throne.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788). Music: *Stuttgart*, melody from *Psalmodia Sacra, oder Andächtige und Schöne Gesänge*, 1715; adapt. and harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870), alt.

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: Luke 21:25-36

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Luke.
People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

Jesus said, "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

"Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man."

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 Mathews

The people, standing as able

THE NICENE CREED *(In unison)*

BCP Page 358

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 People, standing as able. The Leader and People pray responsively.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader Father, we pray for your holy Catholic Church;

People *That we all may be one.*

Leader Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

People *That your Name may be glorified by all people.*

Leader We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

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

Leader We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world; especially Glenn our Governor, Gerry our Representative, Tim and Mark our Senators, Joe our President, the justices and judges of the federal courts, Kristin our delegate and Jennifer our Senator to the state legislature, and the justices and judges of the commonwealth courts.

People *That there may be justice and peace on the earth.*

Leader We pray for the St. Francis Creche School, the Scouts, the Recovery Community of St. Francis, Contemplative Prayer group, and the Altar Guild. Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

People *That our works may find favor in your sight.*

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

People *That they may be delivered from their distress.*

Leader Give to the departed eternal rest, especially Linn Perkins, father of Scott Perkins;

People *Let light perpetual shine upon them.*

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

People *May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.*

Leader Let us pray for our own needs and those of others. 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 us and by nature,

and whose daily lives are made difficult by their circumstances: people in the United States of America, people of Holy Family Church and Mills River, NC, people of the Ezo Diocese, Afghanistan, China, Gaza, Iran, Israel, Lebanon, the Palestinian Authority, Qatar, Russia, Ukraine, and the West Bank.

People *Hear our prayer.*

Leader We ask you to care for: Nora Lee & Richard, Cathy, Lawrence, Ginger & Ed, Bishop Gayle, David, Jon, Jessica, Barbara, Steve, Dave, and Catherine; Lynda, Melissa, Paula, Trevor, Clara Sue, Grace, Jeanne, Sofia & Larry, Debra, Taylor, Kelly & Alex, Nancy, Nick & Hilary, and Dut.

People *Hear our prayer.*

CONCLUDING COLLECT

Presider O Lord our God, accept the fervent prayers of your people; in the multitude of your mercies, look with compassion upon us and all who turn to you for help; for you are gracious, O lover of souls, and to you we give glory, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The people, kneeling as able through the absolution

CONFESSION OF SIN

BCP Page 360

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

BCP Page 360

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: Lo How a Rose Ere Blooming

M. Praetorius

The people, standing as able

The gifts of the people, bread, wine, and alms are brought forward and placed on the altar while the anthem is sung, the people standing, as able.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: (Eucharistic Prayer B)

BCP Page 367

[Hands folded, looking at the people]

The musical notation consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are written below the notes. The first staff is for the Celebrant and the People, the second for the Celebrant and the People, the third for the Celebrant, and the fourth for the People.

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;
be-cause you sent your be-lov-ed Son to re-deem us from sin and death,
and to make us heirs in him of ev-er-last-ing life; that when he shall come again
in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may with-out shame or fear
re-joice to be-hold his ap-pear-ing.
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:

S 130, Sanctus: Holy, holy, holy Lord

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 _____

_____ in the name of the Lord. _____ Ho - san - na

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

Music: From *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

[Stand erect and assume the orans posture during the last line of the sanctus]

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

At the following words concerning the bread, the Celebrant is to hold it, or 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 before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took *[attend to each vessel and firmly lay hands on them]* 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 *[attend to each vessel and firmly lay hands on them]*; 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, *[assuming the orans posture]* according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

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

Presider And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine *[joins hands]*.

We pray you, gracious God, *[epiclesis]* to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified *[solemn bow]* by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

[raise the vessels high]

By him and with him and in him, in the u - ni - ty of the Ho - ly Spi - rit all

ho - nor and glo - ry is yours, Al - migh - ty Fa - ther, now and for ev - er.

Celebrant *People*
A-men.

[Solemn Bow.]

Intoned by the Presider and People

BCP Page 364

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



Our Father, who art in heaven, Hal-lowed 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]

S 164 Fraction Anthem: Jesus, Lamb of God, Agnus Dei

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.

Music: From *Deutsche Messe*; Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Adaptation: Copyright © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

[Point to the gifts and say]

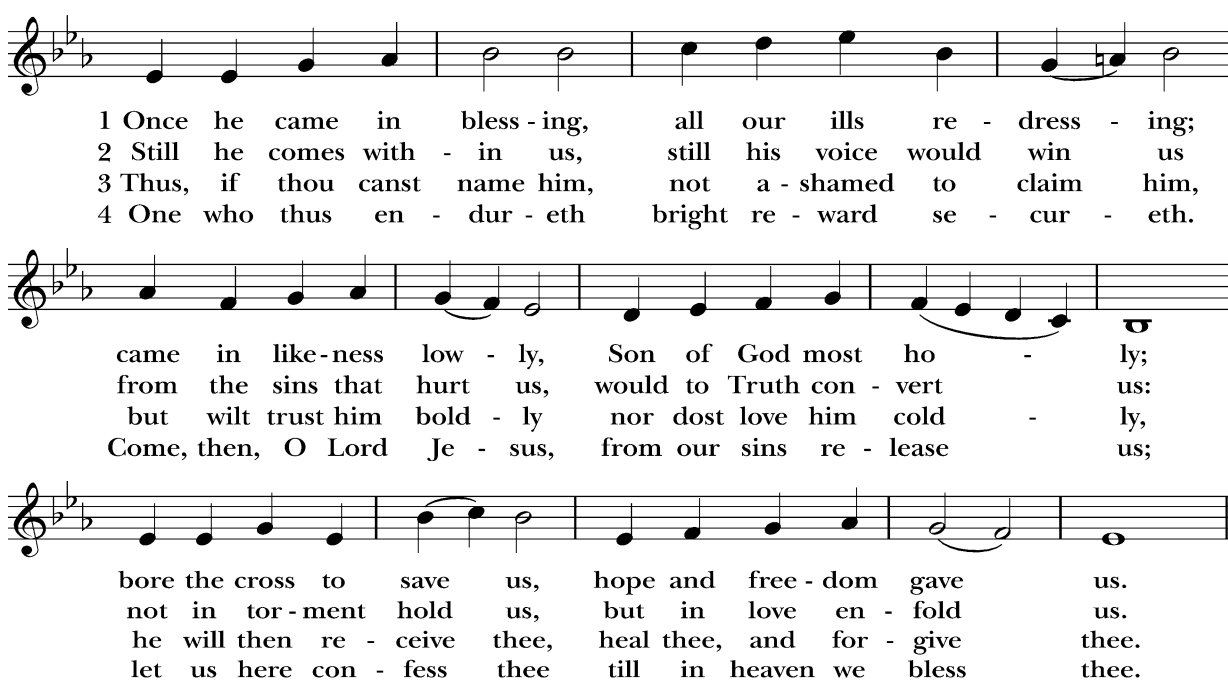
COMMUNION INVITATION

BCP Page 364

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 53: Once he came in blessing



1 Once he came in bless - ing, all our ills re - dress - ing;
2 Still he comes with - in us, still his voice would win us
3 Thus, if thou canst name him, not a - shamed to claim him,
4 One who thus en - dur - eth bright re - ward se - cur - eth.

came in like-ness low - ly, Son of God most ho - ly;
from the sins that hurt us, would to Truth con - vert us:
but wilt trust him bold - ly nor dost love him cold - ly,
Come, then, O Lord Je - sus, from our sins re - lease us;

bore the cross to save us, hope and free - dom gave us.
not in tor - ment hold us, but in love en - fold us.
he will then re - ceive thee, heal thee, and for - give thee.
let us here con - fess thee till in heaven we bless thee.

Words: Jan Roh (1485?-1547); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), alt. Music: *Gottes Sohn ist kommen*, melody Michael Weisse (d. 1534); harm. Jack W. Burnam (b. 1946).

The people, standing

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

BCP Page 365

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 57: Lo! he comes, with clouds ascending

1 Lo! he comes, with clouds de - scend - ing, once for
2 Ev - ery eye shall now be - hold him, robed in
3 Those dear tok - ens of his pas - sion still his
4 Yea, a - men! let all a - dore thee, high on

our sal - va - tion slain; thou - sand thou - sand
dread - ful ma - jes - ty; those who set at
daz - zling bo - dy bears, cause of end - less
thine e - ter - nal throne; Sa - vior, take the

saints at - tend - ing swell the tri - umph of his
nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the
ex - ul - ta - tion to his ran - somed wor - ship -
power and glo - ry; claim the king - dom for thine

First Sunday in Advent, December 1, 2024, 10:00 AM, Rite II

train: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!
tree, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing,
ers; with what rap - ture, with what rap - ture,
own: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.
deep - ly wail - ing, shall the true Mes - si - ah see.
with what rap - ture gaze we on those glo - rious scars!
Al - le - lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone.

Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788). Music: *Helmsley*, melody Thomas Augustine Arne (1710-1778); harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958), alt.

DISMISSAL

BCP Page 366

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: Voluntary

John Stanley

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