

PRELUDE: Sicilienne

Bach/Kempff

Please be seated as the choir sings the Call to Worship

CALL TO WORSHIP: I'm bound for the kingdom

Mosie Lister

PRESENTATION OF THE WORD


(Peoples' responses in bold)

BCP Page 355


10:00 AM ALTAR COPY

The people, standing


HYMN 25: O gracious Light, Lord Jesus Christ



1 O gra - cious Light, Lord Je - sus Christ, in
2 Now sun - set comes, but light shines forth, the
3 Wor - thy are you of end - less praise, O



you the Fa - ther's glo - ry shone. Im - mor - tal, ho - ly,
lamps are lit to pierce the night. Praise Fa - ther, Son, and
Son of God, Life - giv - ing Lord; where - fore you are through



blest is he, and blest are you, his ho - ly Son.
Spi - rit: God who dwells in the e - ter - nal light.
all the earth and in the high - est heaven a - dored.

This hymn may be sung unaccompanied as a four-part canon at a distance of one measure.

Words: Greek, 3rd cent.; tr. F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984); para. of *O Gracious Light*. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund.

Music: *The Eighth Tune*, Thomas Tallis (1505?-1585); adapt. *Hymnal* 1982.

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 542 (vs. 1): Christ is the world's true Light



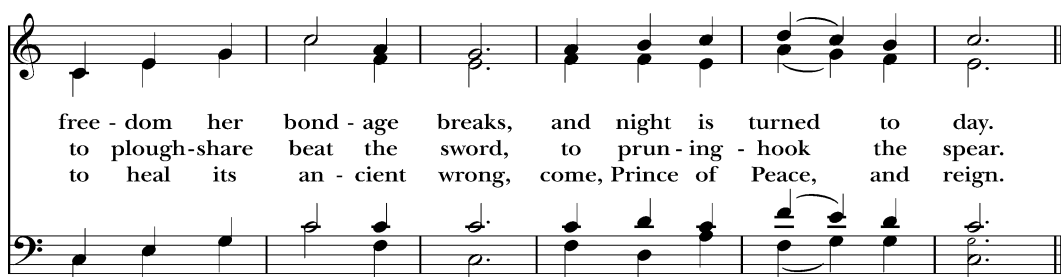
1 Christ is the world's true Light, its Cap-tain of sal - va - tion,
2 In Christ all rac - es meet, their an-cient feuds for - get - ting,
3 One Lord, in one great Name u - nite us all who own thee;



the Day - star clear and bright of ev - ery race and na - tion;
the whole round world com - plete, from sun-rise to its set - ting;
cast out our pride and shame that hin-der to en - throne thee;



new life, new hope a - wakes, for all who own his sway:
when Christ is throned as Lord all shall for - sake their fear,
the world has wait - ed long, has tra - vailed long in pain;



free - dom her bond - age breaks, and night is turned to day.
to plough-share beat the sword, to prun - ing - hook the spear.
to heal its an - cient wrong, come, Prince of Peace, and reign.

Words: George Wallace Briggs (1892-1955), alt. By permission of Oxford University Press. Music: *St. Joan*, Percy E. B. Collier (1892-?). Copyright © The Church Pension Fund.

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.

Almighty and everliving God, we humbly pray that, as your only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple, so we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts by Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The people, seated

FIRST READING: Malachi 3:1-4

Reader A reading from the Prophet Malachai.

Thus says the Lord, See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight-- indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

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

RESPONSE: Psalm 24:7-10, *Domini est terra*

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7 Lift up your heads, O gates;
 lift them high, O everlasting / doors; *
 and the King of glory shall come / in.

8 "Who is this King of / glory?" *

"The LORD, strong and mighty,
the LORD, mighty in / battle."

9 Lift up your heads, O gates;

lift them high, O everlasting / doors; *
and the King of glory shall come / in.

10 "Who is he, this King of / glory?" *

"The LORD of hosts,
he is the King of / glory."

SECOND READING: Hebrews 2:14-18

Reader A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

Since God's children share flesh and blood, Jesus himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

The people, standing as able through the Gospel Reading

HYMN 529: In Christ there is no East or West

Unison or harmony

1 In Christ there is no East or West, in
2 Join hands, dis - ci - ples of the faith, what -
3 In Christ now meet both East and West, in
him no South or North, but one great fel - low -
e'er your race may be! Who serves my Fa - ther
him meet South and North, all Christ - ly souls are
ship of love through - out the whole wide earth.
as his child is sure - ly kin to me.
one in him, through - out the whole wide earth.

Words: John Oxenham (1852-1941), alt.

Music: McKee, Afro-American spiritual; adapt. and harm. Harry T. Burleigh (1866-1949)

CM

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 2:22-40

Gospeller The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Luke.

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

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, the parents of Jesus brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord"), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord's Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

"Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace,
according to your word;

for my eyes have seen your salvation,
which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples,

a light for revelation to the Gentiles
and for glory to your people Israel."

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed-- and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment

she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

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)*

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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 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, Donald our President, the justices and judges of the federal courts, Richard our delegate, 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, and the Search Committee for a new Director of Family Ministries. We give thanks for the Inquirer's Class and our local arts partner, Dark Horse. 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 Leila Dane and Mike Tyson, friend of Chris Giragosian;

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, all those in danger and impacted by the fires in L.A., 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: David, Martin, Janet, Barbara & Bill, Josie, Terri, Jeff Sr., Hugh Sr., Nora Lee, Cathy, Lawrence, Bishop Gayle, David, Jon, Jessica, Paula, Clara Sue, Grace, Sofia & Larry, Debra, Taylor, Kelly & Alex, 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

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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: Loving Shepherd of thy sheep

John Rutter

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)

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[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 staff is for the Celebrant and the People. The third staff is for the Celebrant. The fourth staff is for the People.

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

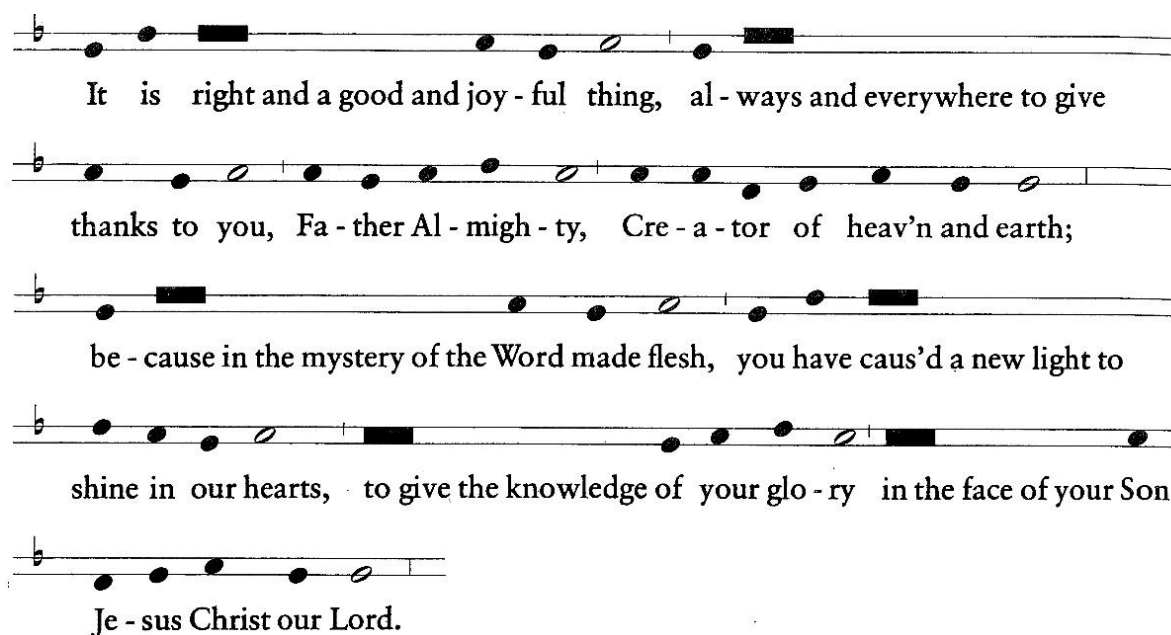
Celebrant *People*
Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

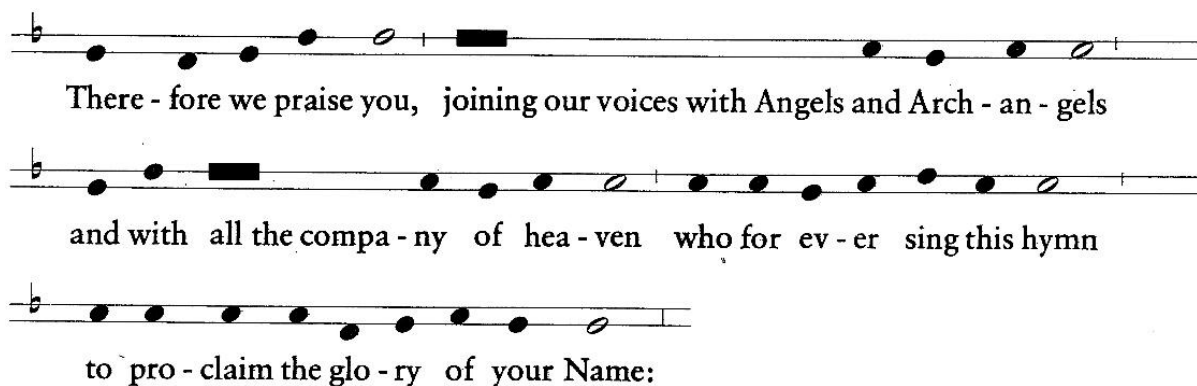
People
It is right to give him thanks and praise.

[Orans]

Presider: (Epiphany)

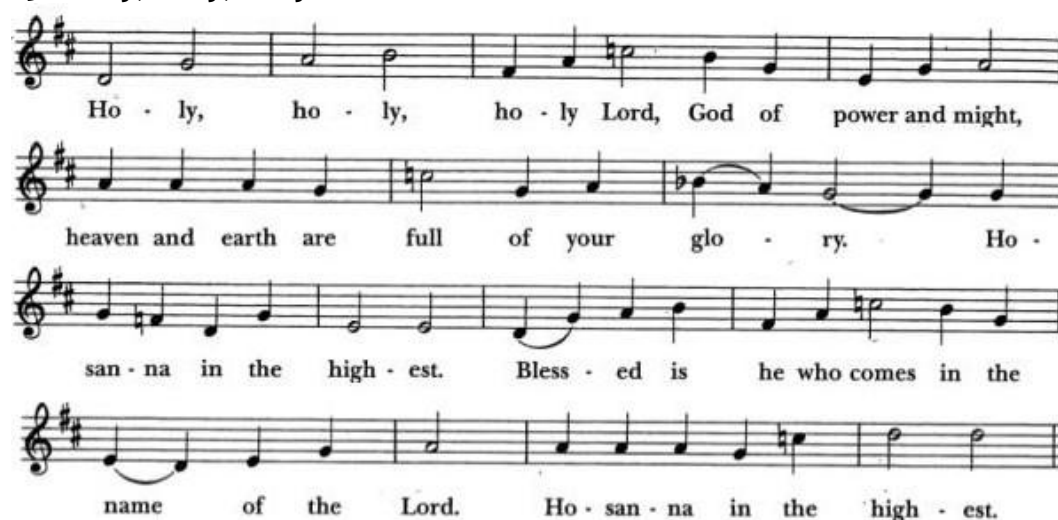


It is right and a good and joy - ful thing, al - ways and everywhere to give
thanks to you, Fa - ther Al - migh - ty, Cre - a - tor of heav'n and earth;
be - cause in the mystery of the Word made flesh, you have caus'd a new light to
shine in our hearts, to give the knowledge of your glo - ry in the face of your Son
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:

S 131 Holy, holy, holy Lord: Sanctus



[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

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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]

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD, S 152 Fraction Anthem: Christ our Passover

Al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;

There-fore let us keep the feast. Al - le - lu - ia.

[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.

WLP HYMN 891: Song of Simeon, Canticle 17

Refrain

Lord, you have ful - filled your word;

Lord, you have ful - filled your

now let your ser - vant de - part in
word; now let your ser - vant de - part in

1. 2. Fine
peace. (to verses)*
peace. (to verses)*

1. 2. Fine
(to verses)*

*At end of canticle in Compline, repeat antiphon.

1. With my own eyes I have seen the sal - va - tion, which

Refrain

you have pre - pared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple.

2. A light to re - veal you to the na - tions and the

Refrain

glo - ry of your peo - ple Is - ra - el.

Refrain

Antiphon for use at Compline

Guide us wak - ing, O Lord, and guard us sleep - ing; that a -

wake we may watch with Christ, and a-sleep we may rest in

1. Before canticle 2. After canticle

peace. peace.

Music: *Port Arthur*, Mimi Fara (b. 1938); antiphon for use at Compline: Kevin Hackett (b. 1956). Music and antiphon: Copyright © 1975 Celebration, Aliquippa, PA 15001. All rights reserved. International copyright secured. Used by permission.

The people, standing

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

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Presider Let us pray.

**Almighty and everliving God,
we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food
of the most precious Body and Blood
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;
and for assuring us in these holy mysteries
that we are living members of the Body of your Son,
and heirs of your eternal kingdom.
And now, Father, send us out
to do the work you have given us to do,
to love and serve you
as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.
To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,
be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.**

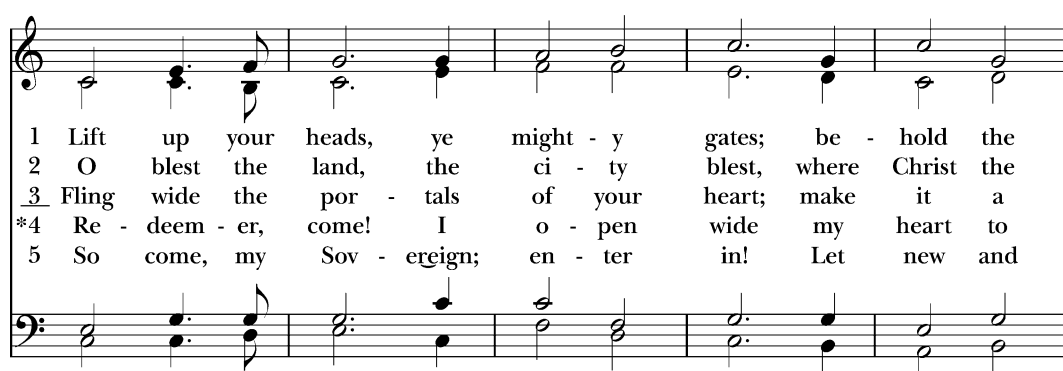
THE BLESSING

Paraphrase of Henri-Frédéric Amiel

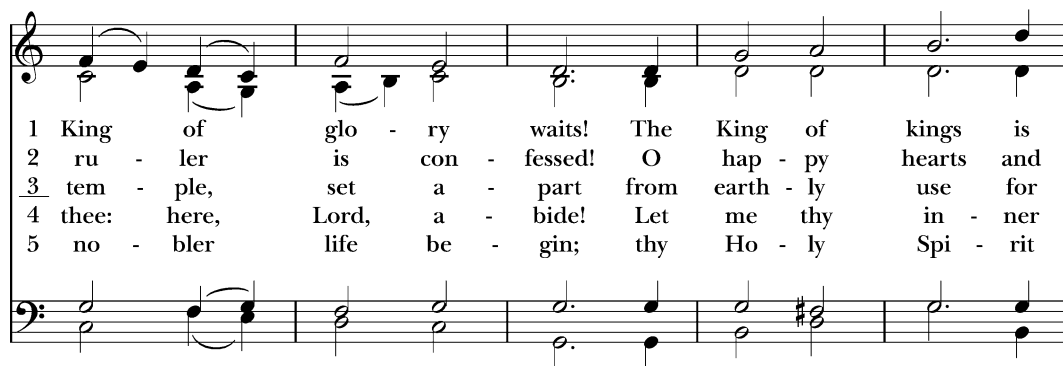
Presider Life is short and we do not have much time to gladden the hearts of those who are traveling the journey with us. So be swift to love, and make haste to be kind. And the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Choir and Altar party recess from the church

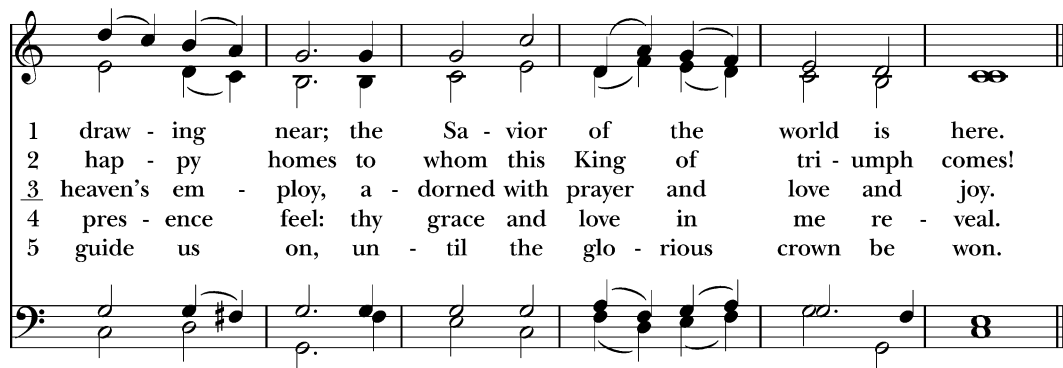
HYMN 436: Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates



1 Lift up your heads, ye might - y gates; be - hold the
2 O blest the land, the ci - ty blest, where Christ the
3 Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a
4 Re - deem - er, come! I o - pen wide my heart to
5 So come, my Sov - ereign; en - ter in! Let new and



1 King of glo - ry waits! The King of kings is
2 ru - ler is con - fessed! O hap - py hearts and
3 tem - ple, set a - part from earth - ly use for
4 thee: here, Lord, a - bide! Let me thy in - ner
5 no - bler life be - gin; thy Ho - ly Spi - rit



1 draw - ing near; the Sa - vior of the world is here.
2 hap - py homes to whom this King of tri - umph comes!
3 heaven's em - ploy, a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
4 pres - ence feel: thy grace and love in me re - veal.
5 guide us on, un - til the glo - rious crown be won.

Words: Georg Weissel (1590-1635); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878). Music: *Truro*, melody from *Psalmodia Evangelica*, Part II, 1789; harm. Lowell Mason (1792-1872), alt.

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

César Franck

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