

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.

The Psalm: Psalm 147
Hallelujah!

How good it is to sing praises to our God!
How pleasant it is to honor him with praise!
*The Lord rebuilds Jerusalem;
he gathers the exiles of Israel.*

He heals the brokenhearted and binds up their wounds.
He counts the number of the stars and calls them all by their names.

Great is our Lord and mighty in power; there is no limit to his wisdom.
The Lord lifts up the lowly, but casts the wicked to the ground.

Sing to the Lord with thanksgiving; make music to our God upon the harp.
He covers the heavens with clouds and prepares rain for the earth;

He makes grass to grow upon the mountains and green plants to serve mankind.
He provides food for flock and herds and for the young ravens when they cry.

He is not impressed by the might of a horse; he has no pleasure in the strength of a man;
But the Lord has pleasure in those who fear him, in those who await his gracious favor.

Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem; praise you God, O Zion;
For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; he has blessed your children within you.

He has established peace on your borders; he satisfies you with the finest wheat.
He sends out his command to the earth, and his word runs very swiftly.

He gives snow like wool; he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.
He scatters his hail like bread crumbs; who can stand against his cold?

He sends forth his word and melts them; he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.
He declares his word to Jacob, his statutes and his judgments to Israel.

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

The Epistle: Galatians 3:23-25;4:4-7
Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian. But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

Laudate Dominum

Reader The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

The people stand for the singing of the Sequence Hymn and the reading of the Gospel. Verses 1 & 2 are sung before the reading and verses 3 & 4 are sung after.
HYMN H-324 Let all mortal flesh keep silence *Picardy*

The Gospel: John 1:1-18

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ According to John.
People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And 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. (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.’”) From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father’s heart, who has made him known.

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

THE SERMON

The Rev. Stephen Secaur

The people stand to say

THE NICENE 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 people are led in

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE FORM IV

Let us pray for the Church and for the world.

Grant, Almighty God, that all who confess your Name may be united in your truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory in the world.

THE PEOPLE GATHER

This service is based on the Order for Holy Eucharist: Rite Two found in the red Book of Common Prayer. It is customary for the people to prepare for worship in quiet and prayer.

THE WORD OF GOD

The people stand to sing

HYMN H-496 How bright appears the Morning Star *Wie schön leuchtet*

ACCLAMATION

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People And blessed be his kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

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.

GLORY TO GOD Gloria in excelsis *S280*

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

The people sit for

The First Reading: Isaiah 61:10-62:3

I 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. For 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. 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. The 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. You shall

Lord, in your mercy *Hear our prayer.*

Guide the people of this land, and of all the nations, in the ways of justice and peace; that we may honor one another and serve the common good.

Lord, in your mercy *Hear our prayer.*

Give us all a reverence for the earth as your own creation, that we may use its resources rightly in the service of others and to your honor and glory.

Lord, in your mercy *Hear our prayer.*

Bless all whose lives are closely linked with ours, especially... and grant that we may serve Christ in them, and love one another as he loves us.

Lord, in your mercy *Hear our prayer.*

Comfort and heal all those who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, especially...; give them courage and hope in their troubles, and bring them the joy of your salvation.

Lord, in your mercy *Hear our prayer.*

We commend to your mercy all who have died, especially...that your will for them may be fulfilled; and we pray that we may share with all your saints in your eternal kingdom.

Lord, in your mercy *Hear our prayer.*

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

PRAYERS OF SPECIAL INTENTION

The people may come forward to receive a special prayer or blessing

THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People *And also with you.*

All greet one another in the name of Christ.

The people are seated for the

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Children’s Sermon

ALTAR PREPARATION

The congregation is invited to join in singing

HYMN H-112 In the bleak mid winter

Cranham

THE HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY

The people stand to sing

At the Presentation: The Doxology (Hymn 380, verse 3)

Old 100th

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: Eucharistic Prayer B

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People *And also with you.*

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People *We lift them up to the Lord.*

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

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:

Holy, holy, holy Lord

Sanctus

S130

The people stand or kneel

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.

On the night before he died for us, 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, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and people

We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory;

The Celebrant continues

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.

We pray you, gracious God, 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 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 the Ever-Blessed Virgin Mary, Blessed Joseph her spouse, Blessed Bartholomew, and 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.

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.**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

Celebrant and people

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Fraction Anthem

Christ our Passover

S154

Celebrant 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.

THE COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

All baptized people—whether Episcopalian or not—are welcome to join in the sacrament of Holy Communion. Children of all ages are included in this invitation. If you wish to receive a healing blessing from the Celebrant, when you come to the rail for Communion, fold your hands in prayer.

COMMUNION H-97

Dost thou in a manger lie

Dies est laetiae

THE POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant and people

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

May Almighty God, who sent his Son to take our nature upon him, bless you in this holy season, scatter the darkness of sin, and brighten your heart with the light of his holiness. *Amen.*

May God, who sent his angels to proclaim the glad news of the Savior’s birth, fill you with joy, and make you heralds of the Gospel. *Amen.*

May God, who in the Word made flesh joined heaven to earth and earth to heaven, give you his peace and favor. *Amen.*

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

The people stand to sing

HYMN H-100

Joy to the world!

Antioch

THE DISMISSAL

The Celebrant dismisses the people, and the people respond

People *Thanks be to God.*

Saint Bartholomew

EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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