

# THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

# **DECEMBER 7, 2025**

# Holy Eucharist

# 10:00 am

# First Coming

He did not wait till the world was ready, till men and nations were at peace. He came when the Heavens were unsteady, and prisoners cried out for release.

He did not wait for the perfect time. He came when the need was deep and great. He dined with sinners in all their grime, turned water into wine.

He did not wait till hearts were pure. In joy he came to a tarnished world of sin and doubt. To a world like ours, of anguished shame he came, and his Light would not go out.

He came to a world which did not mesh, to heal its tangles, shield its scorn. In the mystery of the Word made Flesh the Maker of the stars was born.

We cannot wait till the world is sane to raise our songs with joyful voice, for to share our grief, to touch our pain, He came with Love: Rejoice! Rejoice!

Madeleine L'Engle

Childcare for children ages 4 and under is available 9am-1pm in the Ebsworth Life Center.

Access the Childcare Room from the north lobby, nearest the main parking area, just past the elevator.

Follow the signs or please ask an usher to escort you to Room 109.



**VOLUNTARY** Nun komm der heiden Heiland, BuxWV 211 Dietrich Buxtehude

CALL TO WORSHIP The pealing of the bells calls us to prayer.

#### LIGHTING THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE

Celebrant Today we light the first and second candles of the Advent wreath. Each candle has a meaning. This first candle is HOPE, the second candle is PEACE.

The first Advent candle is lit.

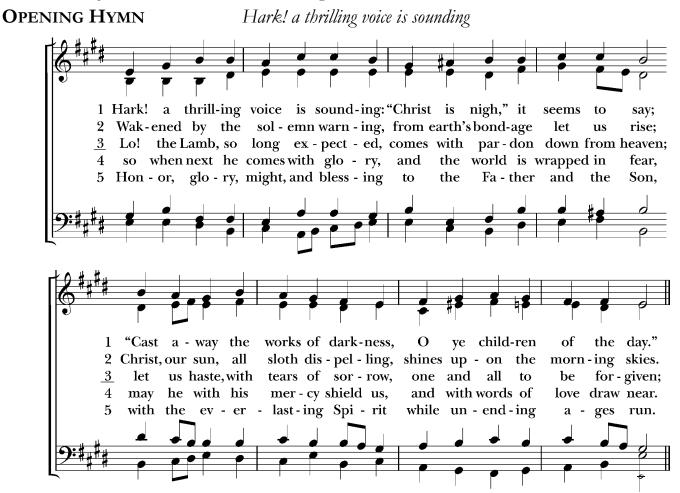
Celebrant Colossians 3:15 – Let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, since as members of one body you were called to peace.

Almighty God, you offer rest for our hearts, and peace for our souls. Give us grace to seek peace in our lives, peace in this community, and peace in the world. Through Jesus Christ, the prince of peace.

All Amen.



At the sound of the bell, all rise as able and sing.



Hymnal 1982, 59 ©; Words: Latin, ca. 6th cent.; tr. Hymns Ancient and Modern, 1861, alt. Music: Merton, William Henry Monk (1823-1889)

#### **OPENING ACCLAMATION**

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

All And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

#### COLLECT FOR PURITY

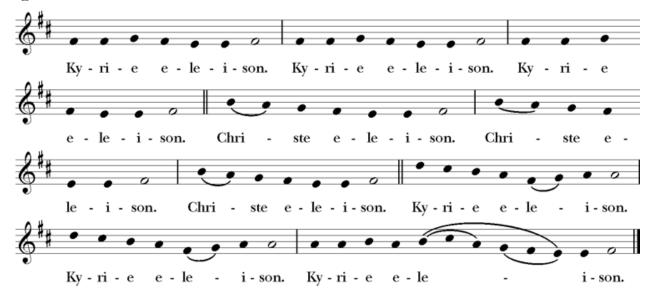
Celebrant

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.

All Amen.

#### **KYRIE**

All sing.



Hymnal 1982, S 86 ©; Setting: from New Plainsong, David Hurd (b. 1950)

#### COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

All And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

All Amen.

## THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

## THE FIRST READING

Lector A Reading from the Prophet Isaiah (11:1-10).

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots.

The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord.

His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord.

He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear;

but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth;

he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked.

Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them.

The cow and the bear shall graze,

their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox.

The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den.

They will not hurt or destroy

on all my holy mountain;

for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord

as the waters cover the sea.

On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

# Deus, judicium

Sung by the choir.

- 1 Give the King your justice, O God, \* and your righteousness to the King's Son;
- 2 That he may rule your people righteously \* and the poor with justice;
- 3 That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, \* and the little hills bring righteousness.
- 4 He shall defend the needy among the people; \* he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.
- 5 He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, \* from one generation to another.
- 6 He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, \* like showers that water the earth.
- 7 In his time shall the righteous flourish; \* there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.
- 18 Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, \* who alone does wondrous deeds!
- 19 And blessed be his glorious Name for ever! \* and may all the earth be filled with his glory. Amen. Amen.



## THE SECOND READING

Lector A

A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans (13:11-14).

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

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"Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name";
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and again he says,

"Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people";

and again,

"Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him";

and again Isaiah says,

"The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope."

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Lector

The Word of the Lord.

A11

Thanks be to God.



All rise as able and sing.



Wonder Love and Praise, 724 ©; Words: Eleanor Farjeon (1881-1965) © 1957 Eleanor Farjeon; Reprinted by permission of Harold Ober Associates, Inc. Music: Besançon, harm. John L. Hooker (b. 1944); harm. © 1997 John L. Hooker

## THE GOSPEL

Gospeler The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew (3:1-12).

All Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord,
make his paths straight."

Now John wore clothing of camel's hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.

"I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.

All Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Edmund Harris

All may be seated.

Silence follows the sermon.

All stand as able and say together.

#### THE NICENE CREED

All 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

Intercessor

As salvation draws near, let us be awake, alert, and watchful for the One who has come and will come into our lives.

For the Church in every place and context: in the Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we pray for the Church of Bangladesh and in the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for Good Shepherd, Vancouver and St. Luke's/San Lucas, Vancouver. May we live as children of light and show God's love to those around us.

Hear us as we cry:

# All Lord, be with us.

Intercessor

For this parish family, St. Thomas Church, that in our worship and work we may live together in joyful hope and expectation.

Hear us as we cry:

# All Lord, be with us.

Intercessor For peace in all troubled places, that God will teach the hearts of all the human

family to turn swords into plows and resources for war into healing and

development.

Hear us as we cry:

All Lord, be with us.

Intercessor For all who are burdened by the cares of life, that they may always be ready to

welcome Christ wherever he reveals himself.

Hear us as we cry:

All Lord, be with us.

*Intercessor* For all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, remembering especially:

All Dorothy, Christine, Donna, Barbara, Janet & Tom, Fr. George, Luigi,

Jerry, Ben & Beth, Jennifer, Marsha, Hannah, Donna, John, Joseph, Carol, Erik, George, Cam, Sarah, Mary Ann, Nancy, Martha, and

Catherine & Jim.

*Intercessor* May they find God's care and compassion as others reach out to them.

Hear us as we cry:

All Lord, be with us.

*Intercessor* For all who are burdened by the cares of life, that they may always be ready to

welcome Christ wherever he reveals himself.

Hear us as we cry:

All Lord, be with us.

*Intercessor* For all those who have died, remembering especially:

All Bryan Elliott, Jean Johnson, Jean Haehl, Jane Leffingwell, and

Christiane Gee Porter.

*Intercessor* May they rest in peace, and know the fulness of God's presence.

Hear us as we cry:

All Lord, be with us.

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

Silence is held.

Hear us as we cry:

All Lord, be with us.

Celebrant O Incarnate One for whom we long, hear our prayers and keep us ever

watchful, that when Christ our Savior comes, we may welcome him with joy

and gladness. This we ask in his most holy Name.

All Amen.

The Church of Bangladesh is a united Protestant church rooted in Anglican and Presbyterian traditions. Formally constituted on 30 April 1974 after Bangladesh's independence, it grew out of earlier Anglican mission work and the Church of Pakistan. The church now comprises three dioceses — Dhaka, Kushtia and Barisal — with about 115 parishes and roughly 22,000–23,000 members. Governed by a synod with a mixed episcopal—presbyterian polity, its Moderator (usually the Archbishop of Dhaka) leads the denomination. The Church of Bangladesh is a member of the Anglican Communion and the World Communion of Reformed Churches and ministers among many ethnic groups (Garo, Santal, Marma, Chakma).

#### CONFESSION

Celebrant Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

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.

Celebrant 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.

All Amen.

#### THE PEACE

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All And also with you.

The ministers and the people greet one another.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS** As stewards of all that God has given us, we share the many ways to be engaged in the life of our community.

## THE HOLY COMMUNION

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

An offering is received to support the mission of St. Thomas. All are invited to make a gift as the plate is passed, using the QR code at right, or at stthomasmedina.org/giving.



Watchman, tell us of the night, what its signs of promise are.
Traveler, o'er you mountain's height: see that glory-beaming star.

Watchman, does its beauteous ray Aught of joy or hope foretell? Traveler, yes; it brings the day, promised day of Israel.

Watchman, tell us of the night; higher yet that star ascends. Traveler, blessedness and light, peace and truth its course portends. Watchman, will its beams alone gild the spot that gave them birth? Traveler, ages are its own; see, it bursts o'er all the earth.

Watchman, tell us of the night, for the morning seems to dawn. Traveler, darkness takes its flight; doubt and terror are withdrawn.

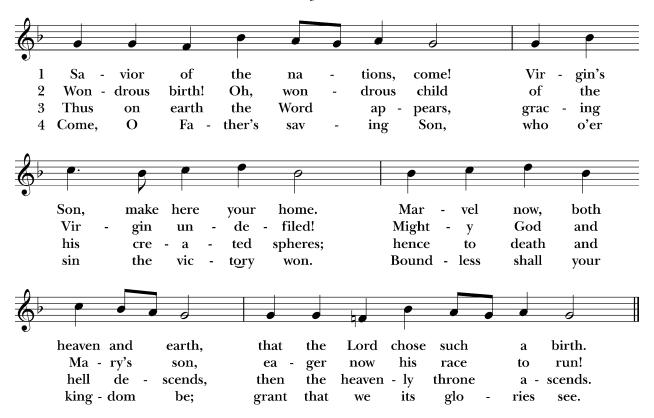
Watchman, let thy wand'rings cease; hie thee to thy quiet home.
Traveler, lo! The Prince of Peace,
Lo, the Son of God is come!

text: John Browning

All rise as able and sing.

## THE PRESENTATION HYMN

Savior of the nations, come



Hymnal 1982, 54 ©; Words: Martin Luther (1483-1546) after Ambrose of Milan (340-397); tr. William M. Reynolds (1812-1876) and James Waring McCrady (b. 1938)

Music: Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland, melody from Erfurt Enchiridia, 1524

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Celebrant The Lord be with you.All And also with you.Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

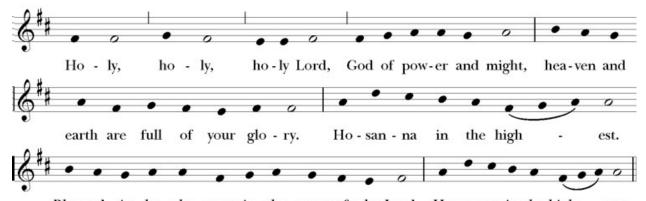
All We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Celebrant

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 sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. 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:



Bless-ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

Hymnal 1982 S 124 ©; Setting: From New Plainsong, David Hurd (b. 1950)

Celebrant

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."

Celebrant

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,

All We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

Celebrant

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 Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Joseph, St. Thomas, 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.

## All AMEN.

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant

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

*A11* 

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.

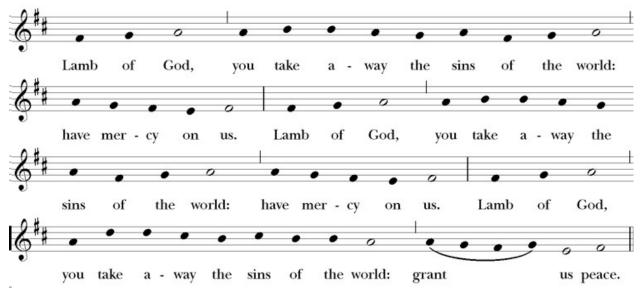
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

The bread is broken.

# All sing.

### FRACTION ANTHEM



Hymnal 1982 S 161 ©; Setting: From New Plainsong, David Hurd (b. 1950)

Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

All

Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

## **INVITATION TO COMMUNION**

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

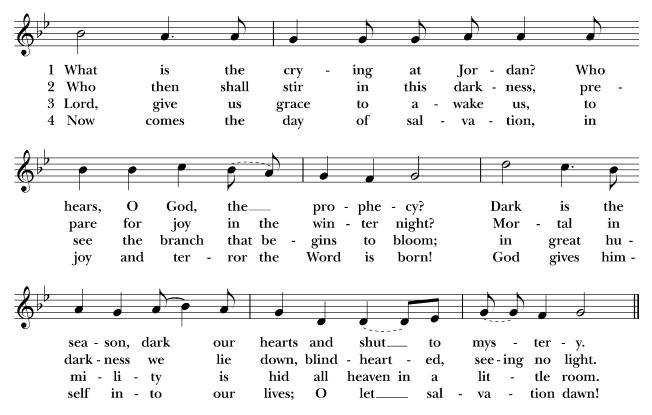
All may be seated for the time of Communion.

Ushers will guide each row to the altar rail to receive Holy Communion. Please follow their instructions. Intinction (dipping the bread in the wine) is **not** available at this time. If you prefer to receive a blessing (or not to receive bread and/or wine), place your arms across your chest as a sign. Gluten-free Holy Communion wafers are available upon request. If you need a gluten-free wafer, please inform the priest at the altar rail.



## **COMMUNION HYMN**

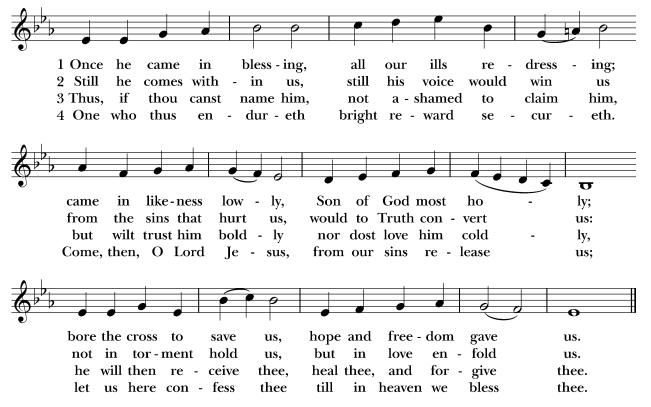
# What is the crying at Jordan?



Hymnal 1982, 69 ©; Words: Carol Christopher Drake (1933-2022), alt. Music: St. Mark's, Berkely, Irish melody from Danta De: Hymns to God, Ancient and Modern

## **COMMUNION HYMN**

## Once he came in blessing



Hymnal 1982, 53 ©; Words: Jan Roh (1485?-1547); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), alt. Music: Gottes Sohn ist kommen, melody Michael Weisse (d. 1534)

All rise as able.

#### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Celebrant Let us pray.

All

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.

# **EUCHARISTIC VISITOR BLESSING** \*\* When appropriate.

In the name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that Celebrant those to whom you go may share with us in the communion of Christ's body

and blood.

We who are many are one body, because we all share one bread, one cup. All

#### THE BLESSING

Celebrant May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from

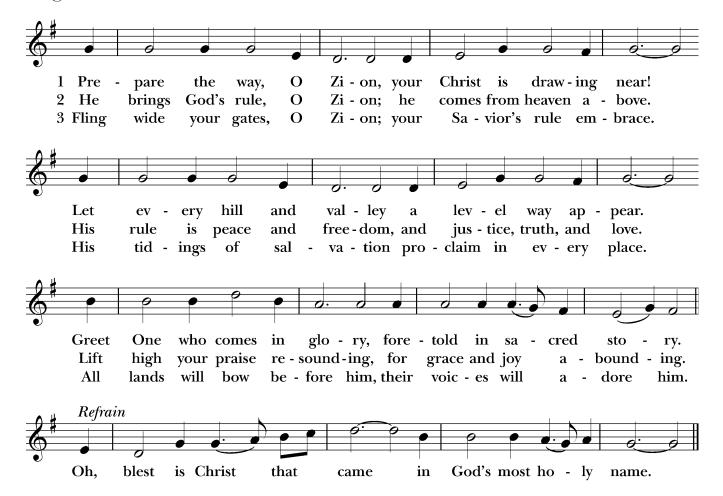
before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and

the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.

*A11* Amen.



All sing.



Hymnal 1982, 65 ©; Words: Frans Mikael Franzen (1772-1847); tr. Composite; adapt. Charles P. Price (1920-1999) Music: Bereden väg for Herran, melody from Then Swenska Psalmboken, 1697

# THE DISMISSAL

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

All Thanks be to God.

**VOLUNTARY** Nun komm, der Heiden Heiland

Johann Pachelbel



#### SERVING THIS DAY

The Rev. Elizabeth (Liz) R. Costello

Rector

The Rev. Edmund Harris

Associate Rector

Dr. Paul Meier

Director of Music & Organist

The St. Thomas Church Choir

#### VESTRY

Fred Williams · Senior Warden · seniorwarden@stthomasmedina.org

Valerie Wang · Junior Warden · valerie.l.wang@gmail.com

Anne Bentley · Treasurer · treasurer@stthomasmedina.org

**Doug Weigel** · Chancellor · chancellor@stthomasmedina.org

John Sherwood · St. Thomas School Representative · jsherwoodjr@prklaw.com

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