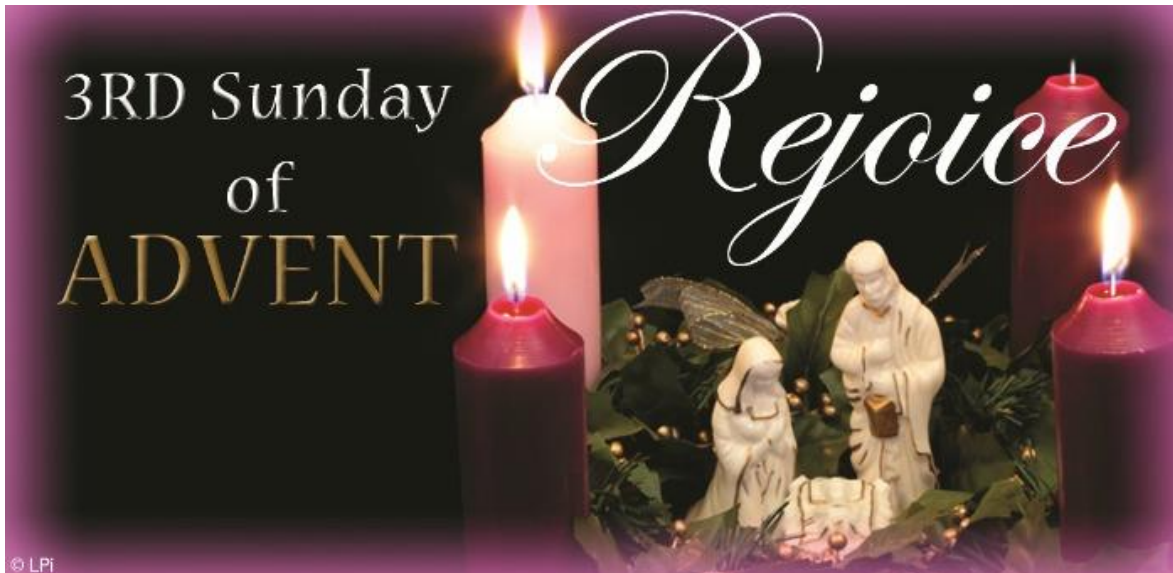


The Third Sunday of Advent

16 December 2018



The Holy Eucharist: Rite I

8:00am = Page 6

Choral Morning Prayer with the Holy Eucharist: Rite I

10:00am = Page 14



St. Peter's by the Sea Episcopal Church

500 South Country Road • Bay Shore, New York 11706

Phone 631-665-0051

Fax 631-665-0052

www.stpetersbayshore.org



Welcome to St. Peter's by the Sea Episcopal Church

We extend a warm welcome to everyone, and especially any visitors who may be worshipping with us today. If you do not already have a church home, please feel welcome to join this Parish family.

In the Episcopal Church, all baptized persons are welcomed to the table to receive Holy Communion.

Our Services begin with the Opening Voluntary. You are invited to enter quietly into the spirit of worship as the music is played.

PLEASE SILENCE YOUR CELL PHONES.

—Parish Notices—

THIS MORNING, we will begin the 10am Eucharist with Choral Matins (Morning Prayer), a favorite service for many “Old Timers” Episcopalians! Next Sunday, we will begin with the Sunday School Christmas Pageant. Please note that we will NOT have a Family Service at 4pm on Christmas Eve, and the Festival Christmas Eve Eucharist will begin at 9pm. The full schedule of special services and concerts of the season is listed on page 5.

THE PARISH CHOIR AND SOLOISTS WITH ORCHESTRA WILL PRESENT G. F. HANDEL'S “MESSIAH” THIS AFTERNOON, DECEMBER 16 AT 4PM. Suggested donation is \$20/\$15 students and seniors. All are invited to join us for this revered Christmas musical tradition.

THE ONGOING FOOD PANTRY WISH LIST FOR THIS WEEK INCLUDES THESE ITEMS: Non-perishable foods that can be opened and eaten, especially cereal, tuna fish, soup beans, mac&cheese, corned beef hash, canned chicken, canned ravioli, spaghetti O's, etc.

THE ANGEL TREE: Wrapped gifts for the Angel Tree should be here today. As always, thanks for your generosity!

BIBLE STUDY continues on Sundays between services and on Tuesdays at 10:30am. All are invited!

THE WAY OF LOVE: As the Episcopal branch of the Jesus Movement, we follow the Way of Jesus. His way is the Way of Love, and that love has the power to change lives and change the world. How will you and your ministry grow more centered in Jesus and share his loving, liberating, life-giving way in the world? Presiding Bishop Michael Curry invites us to join him in THE WAY OF LOVE, Practices for Jesus-Centered Life. Please see pages 30 and 31 of this service book for more information, and more resources at www.episcopalchurch.org/wayoflove

ADVANCE NOTICES: On Sunday, January 6, The Feast of the Epiphany, the 10am service will begin with Lessons and Carols for Epiphany, identical in form to the service last week. This service will provide a “bookend” to the seasons of Advent and Christmas. The ANNUAL PARISH MEETING will be on Sunday, January 20. There will be only one service that day, beginning at 9am in the Church and concluding the meeting in the Parish Hall.

— Prayers for the Week —

We pray for those seeking healing: Andrea, Anthony, Austin, Autumn, Betty, Bryce, Carolyn, Chris, Curt, David, Diane, Elinor, Ellen, Emily, George, Greg, Hannah, James, Joel, John, John H., Joy, Kim, Manuel, Margaret, Mark, Mary, Michelle, Nancy, Robert, Roger, Rose, Sarah Grace, Shanti, Theresa, Tria, William;

We pray for those who have died; and all those grieving the death of a loved one, that they may they find comfort and peace;

We pray for those in military service, and especially for Christian, Eileen, John, Kyle, Robert, and Stephen;

We pray for the unemployed and underemployed; for all who suffer from addictions; for all who suffer chronic illness, and for all caregivers;

We pray for our companion dioceses of Torit & Ecuador-Central; and for mercy, peace, and justice among all peoples, especially those whose lives have been devastated by natural disasters, terrorism, war, famine, tyranny, or injustice;

In the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer we pray for St. James', Brookhaven; St. John the Baptist, Center Moriches; Primates of the Anglican Communion; Church of the Messiah, Central Islip; St. Patrick's, Deer Park; St. Lawrence of Canterbury, Dix Hills; St. Luke's, East Hampton;

In the Anglican Cycle of Prayer we pray for the Dioceses of Kivu (Rwanda); Kobe (Japan); Koforidua (Ghana); Kollam-Kottarakkara, Krishna-Godavari (South India); Kondoa (Tanzania); Kongor (Upper Nile, South Sudan); Kontoragora (Nigeria).

Financial Snapshot for the Week of 12/9/18

Total Parish Expenses Per Week	\$5,546.00
Donations weekend of 12/9/18	\$3,746.00
Amount Under for the Week	\$1,800.00
Year to Date Deficit	\$94,216.00



The Parish Choir & Soloists
with
Orchestra
Mark Engelhardt, Director

Sunday, December 16, 2018
4:00 P.M.

Suggested Donation: \$20/\$15

St. Peter's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church
500 South Country Road Bay Shore, New York
631-665-0051

St. Peter's by-the-Sea Episcopal Church

500 South Country Road • Bay Shore, NY

Advent and Christmastide 2018

Sunday, December 2, 2018 - 10am

The First Sunday of Advent
Lessons & Carols for Advent
with the Holy Eucharist

Sunday, December 16, 2018 - 10am

The Third Sunday of Advent
Choral Matins with the Holy Eucharist

Sunday, December 16, 2018 - 4pm

St. Peter's Parish Choir and Orchestra
Handel's "Messiah", Part I with selections from Parts II and III

Sunday, December 23, 2018 - 10am

The Fourth Sunday of Advent
The Christmas Pageant with the Holy Eucharist

Monday, December 24, 2018 - 9pm

Festival Choral Eucharist
for the Eve of Christmas

Tuesday, December 25, 2018 - 10am

Holy Eucharist for the Day of Christmas
Organ only, no choir

Sunday, January 6, 2019 - 10am

The Feast of the Epiphany
Lessons & Carols for Epiphany with the Holy Eucharist

The Holy Eucharist: Rite I

The Book of Common Prayer, page 323

8 o'clock in the morning

The Word of God

Opening Voluntary: Chorale Prelude on “Savior of the Nations, Come” Dietrich Buxtehude

The Opening Acclamation

Celebrant Bless the Lord who forgiveth all our sins.

People His mercy endureth for ever.

The Collect for Purity

Almighty God, unto whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of thy Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love thee, and worthily magnify thy holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Song of Praise

Lord, have mercy upon us.

Christ, have mercy upon us.

Lord, have mercy upon us.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And with thy spirit.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Stir up thy power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let thy bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be honor and glory, world without end.

Amen.

The Lessons

The First Lesson: Zephaniah 3:14-20

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Canticle 9: The First Song of Isaiah (*Said by all*)

- 1 Surely, it is God who saves me;*
I will trust in him and not be afraid.
 - 2 For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense,*
and he will be my Savior.
 - 3 Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing*
from the springs of salvation.
 - 4 And on that day you shall say,*
Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;
 - 5 Make his deeds known among the peoples;*
see that they remember that his Name is exalted.
 - 6 Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things,*
and this is known in all the world.
 - 7 Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy,*
for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.
- Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,*
and to the Holy Ghost:
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,*
world without end. Amen.

The Second Lesson: Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The Gospel: Luke 7-18

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People Glory be to thee, O Lord.

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin 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." And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages." As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The Sermon

The Right Reverend Johncy Itty

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 Prayers of the People

The Intercessor says

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Almighty and ever living God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Lord, hear our prayer

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers, especially Michael, the Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church; Lawrence, GERALYN and Daniel, Bishops of the Diocese of Long Island; and Johnny, our Bishop-in-Residence, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

Lord, hear our prayer

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

Lord, hear our prayer

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, especially the President of the United States, the members of Congress, and all regional and local authorities, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Lord, hear our prayer

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

Lord, hear our prayer

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor Andrea, Anthony, Austin, Autumn, Betty, Bryce, Carolyn, Chris, Curt, David, Diane, Elinor, Ellen, Emily, George, Greg, Hannah, James, Joel, John, John H., Joy, Kim, Manuel, Margaret, Mark, Mary, Michelle, Nancy, Robert, Roger, Rose, Sarah Grace, Shanti, Theresa, Tria, William; and all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

Lord, hear our prayer

We pray for those in military service, and especially for Christian, Eileen, John, Kyle, Robert, and Stephen;

Lord, hear our prayer

For the unemployed and underemployed; for all who suffer from addictions; for all who suffer chronic illness, and for all caregivers; . . . For our companion dioceses of Torit and Ecuador-Central, and for mercy, peace, and justice among all peoples, especially those whose lives have been devastated by natural disasters, terrorism, war, famine, tyranny, or injustice; For the petitions in the Diocesan Cycle of Prayer and the Anglican Cycle of Prayer this week; . . . And for any other special needs of this congregation, I invite your intercessions now, silently or aloud. [*silence*]

Lord, hear our prayer

And we also bless thy holy Name for all thy servants departed this life in thy faith and fear, beseeching thee to grant them continual growth in thy love and service; and to grant us grace so to follow the good examples of the Blessed Virgin Mary, St. Peter, St. Edmund, and of all thy saints, that with them we may be partakers of thy heavenly kingdom.

Lord, hear our prayer

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. Amen.

The Confession of Sin and Absolution

Celebrant

Ye who do truly and earnestly repent you of your sins, and are in love and charity with your neighbors, and intend to lead a new life, following the commandments of God, and walking from henceforth in his holy ways: Draw near with faith, and make your humble confession to Almighty God,

All

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ,
maker of all things, judge of all men:

We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness,
which we from time to time most grievously have committed,
by thought, word, and deed, against thy divine Majesty,
provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us.

We do earnestly repent,
and are heartily sorry for these our misdoings;
the remembrance of them is grievous unto us,
the burden of them is intolerable.

Have mercy upon us,
have mercy upon us, most merciful Father;
for thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake,
forgive us all that is past;
and grant that we may ever hereafter
serve and please thee in newness of life,
to the honor and glory of thy Name;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Celebrant

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, who of his great mercy hath promised forgiveness of sins to all those who with hearty repentance and true faith turn unto him, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and bring you to everlasting life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Presider may then say one or more of the following sentences, first saying
Hear the Word of God to all who truly turn to him.

Come unto me, all ye that travail and are heavy laden, and I will refresh you. *Matthew 11:28*

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, to the end that all that believe in him should not perish, but have everlasting life. *John 3:16*

The Peace

The Holy Communion

The Hymn at the Offering

Hark! A thrilling voice is sounding

The Hymnal 1982, #59

Merton

1 Hark! a thrill-ing voice is sound-ing; "Christ is nigh," it seems to say;
2 Wak-ened by the sol- emn warn-ing, from earth's bond-age let us rise;
3 Lo! the Lamb, so long ex-pect-ed, comes with par-don down from heaven;
4 so when next he comes with glo-ry, and the world is wrapped in fear,
5 Hon-or, glo-ry, might, and bless-ing to the Fa-ther and the Son,

1 "Cast a-way the works of dark-ness, O ye child-ren of the day."
2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis-pel-ling, shines up-on the morn-ing skies.
3 let us haste, with tears of sor-row, one and all to be for-given;
4 may he with his mer-cy shield us, and with words of love draw near.
5 with the ev-er-last-ing Spi-rit while un-end-ing a-ges run.

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The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And with thy spirit.

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them up unto the Lord.

Celebrant Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

People It is meet and right so to do.

The Celebrant continues

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God. Because thou didst send thy 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 with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

Celebrant and People

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts:

Heaven and earth are full of thy glory.

Glory be to thee, O Lord Most High.

Blessed is he that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Then the Celebrant continues

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

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

People and Celebrant

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

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

O Lamb of God, that takest away the sins of the world,
grant us thy peace.

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. *Amen.*

The Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

The Prayer of St. Richard

Lord Jesus Christ, Most Merciful Redeemer, Friend and Brother,
help us this day and everyday to see Thee more clearly,
to follow Thee more nearly, to love Thee more dearly,
for Thy Name's sake. Amen.

The Advent Blessing & Dismissal

May the Sun of Righteousness shine upon 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. *Amen.*

Voluntary Preludium in C Major

Dietrich Buxtehude

Choral Morning Prayer with the Holy Eucharist: Rite I

Opening Voluntary Chorale Prelude on “Savior of the Nations, Come”

Dietrich Buxtehude

The Hymn at the Procession

The Hymnal 1982, #59

Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding

Merton

Descant

2 Wak - ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond - age let us rise;
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther and the Son,

1 Hark! a thrill - ing voice is sound - ing: "Christ is nigh," it seems to say;
2 Wak - ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond - age let us rise;
3 Lo! the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, comes with par - don down from heaven;
4 so when next he comes with glo - ry, and the world is wrapped in fear,
5 Hon - or, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing to the Fa - ther and the Son,

2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
5 with the ev - er - last - ing Spi - rit while un - end - ing a - ges run.

1 "Cast a - way the works of dark - ness, O ye child - ren of the day."
2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
3 let us haste, with tears of sor - row, one and all to be for - given;
4 may he with his mer - cy shield us, and with words of love draw near.
5 with the ev - er - last - ing Spi - rit while un - end - ing a - ges run.

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Bishop

Watch ye, for ye know not when the master of the house cometh, at even, or at midnight, or at the cock-crowing, or in the morning; lest coming suddenly he find you sleeping.

(Mark 13:35,36)

The Confession of Sin

Bishop

Dearly beloved, we have come together in the presence of Almighty God our heavenly Father, to render thanks for the great benefits that we have received at his hands, to set forth his most worthy praise, to hear his holy Word, and to ask, for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and our salvation. And so that we may prepare ourselves in heart and mind to worship him, let us, with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

All Almighty and most merciful Father,
 we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep,
 we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts,
 we have offended against thy holy laws,
 we have left undone those things which we ought to have done,
 and we have done those things which we ought not to have done.
 But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us,
 spare thou those who are penitent,
 according to thy promises declared unto mankind
 in Christ Jesus our Lord;
 and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,
 that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life,
 to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

Bishop The Almighty and merciful Lord grant you absolution and remission of all your sins,
 true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit.
Amen.

The Invitatory and Psalter

Officiant
 O Lord, o - pen thou our lips.

People
 And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

Officiant and People
 Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spi - rit;
 As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. A - men.

Except during Lent, may be added:
 Al - le - lu - ia.

The Invitatory Psalm - The Venite

1. O come, let us sing unto the Lord; let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our
 sal - va - tion. 2. Let us come before his presence with thanks - giv - ing,
 and show ourselves glad in him with psalms. 3. For the Lord is a great God,
 and a great King a - bove all gods. 4. In his hand are all the corners of the earth,

and the strength of the hills is his al-so. 5. The sea is his and he made it,
 and his hands prepared the dry land. 6. O come, let us worship and fall down
 and kneel before the Lord our Ma-ker. 7. For he is the Lord our God,
 and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand. 8. O worship
 the Lord in the beauty of ho-li-ness; let the whole earth stand in awe of him.
 9. For he cometh, for he cometh to judge the earth, and with righteousness to judge
(Gloria Patri may be added)
 the world and the peo-ples with his truth. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to
 the Ho-ly Spi-rit: As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ev-er. A-men.

The congregation is seated for the Psalm and the Lessons.

Psalm 98 *(Sung by Choir and Congregation)*

John Goss

- 1 Sing to the Lord a | **new** | song,*
 for | he has • done | mar-vel•ous | things.
- 2 With his right hand and his | holy | arm*
 has he | won for • him- | self the victory.
- 3 The Lord has made | known his | victory;*
 his righteousness has he openly | shown in • the | sight of • the | nations.
- 4 He remembers his mercy and faithfulness to the | house of | Israel,*
 and all the ends of the earth have seen the | victor • y | of our | God.
- 5 Shout with joy to the | Lord all • you | lands;*
 lift up your | voice, re- | joice and | sing.
- 6 Sing to the | Lord with • the | harp,*
 with the | harp and • the | voice of | song.
- 7 With trumpets and the | sound of • the | horn*
 shout with joy be- | fore the | King, the | Lord.

- 8 Let the sea make a noise and | all that • is | in it,*
the lands and | those who | dwell there- | in.
- 9 Let the rivers | clap their | hands,*
and let the hills ring out with joy before the Lord,
when he | comes to | judge the | earth.
- 10 In righteousness shall he | judge the | world*
— | and the | peoples • with | equity.
Glory be to the Father, and | to the | Son,
and | to the | Holy | Ghost,
as it was in the beginning, is now and | ever | shall be,
world without | end. | A- | men.

The First Lesson: Zephaniah 3:14-20

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The congregation stands to sing the Canticle.

The Canticle: *Benedicite, omnia opera Domini*

Wonder, Love, and Praise, #884

A Song of Creation

Thaddeus P. Cavuoti



1. O all ye works of God_____ now come to
2. O sun and moon and stars_____ of heav'n your
3. O heat and cold, O night_____ and day, O
4. O earth and sea, O all_____ that live in
5. O let his peo - ple bless_____ the Lord like



- | | | |
|-------------------------------|--|------|
| thank him and a - dore; | O an - gels sing and bless the Lord | and |
| end - less praise out - pour; | O chang - ing sea - sons, bless the Lord | and |
| storms and thund - er's roar, | O fields and for - ests, bless the Lord | and |
| wa - ter or on shore, | O men and wo - men bless the Lord | and |
| right - eous souls of yore; | let those of ho - ly hum - ble heart | come |



- | |
|----------------------------|
| praise him ev - er - more. |
| praise him ev - er - more. |
| praise him ev - er - more. |
| praise him ev - er - more. |
| praise him |

ev - er - more.

The Second Lesson: Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

The congregation stands for the Canticle, sung by the Choir

The Canticle: *Ecce, Deus*

The First Song of Isaiah

Wonder, Love, and Praise, #882

Plainsong with alternatim arr. Fred Goff

Cantor *All*

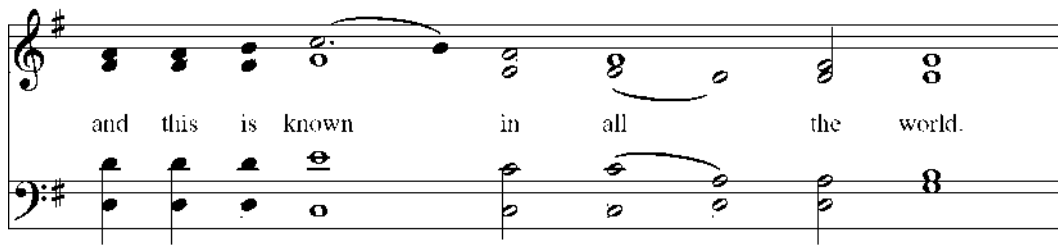
1. Sure - ly, it is God who saves me: I will trust in him and not be a - fraid.

2. For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure de - fense, and he will be my Sa - vior.

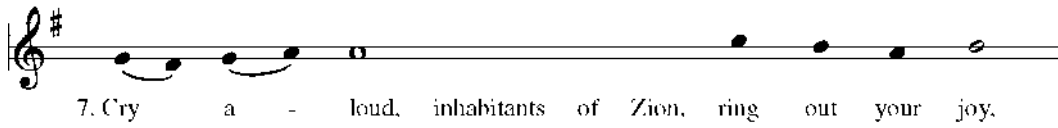
3. Therefore you shall draw wa - ter with re-joic-ing from the springs of sal - va - tion.

4. And on that day you shall say, give thanks to the Lord and
call up - on his Name; 5. Make his deeds known a - mong
the peo-ples: see that they remember that his Name is ex - alt - ed.

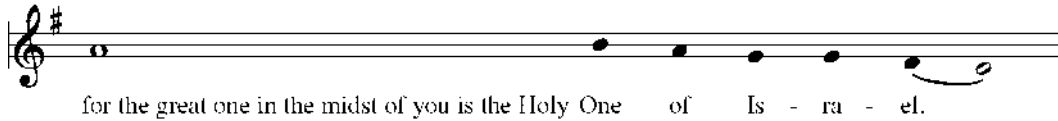
6. Sing the praises of the Lord, who has done great things.



and this is known in all the world.



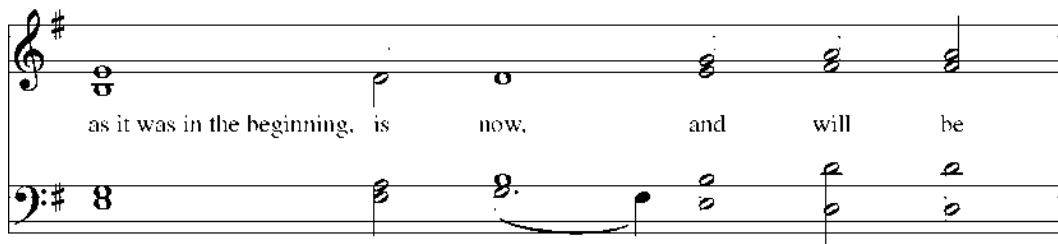
7. Cry a - loud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy.



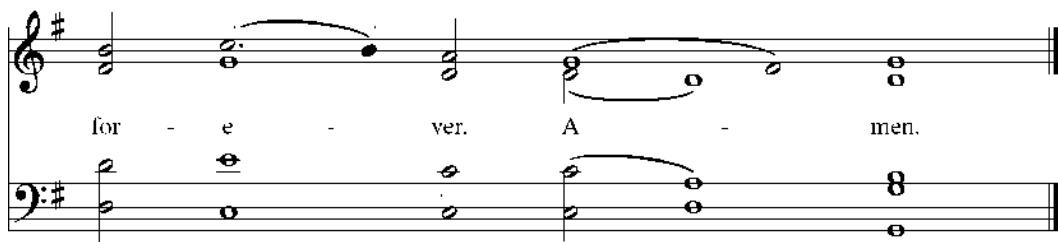
for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Is - ra - el.



Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spi - rit:



as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be



for - e - ver. A - men.

The Gospel: Luke 3:7-18

Celebrant The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

People Glory be to thee, O Lord.

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin 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." And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages." As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of

them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise be to thee, O Christ.

The Sermon

The Right Reverend Jhncy Itty

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 Prayers

Officiant *People* *Officiant*
The Lord be with you. And with thy spirit. Let us pray.

Cantor or Officiant
V. O Lord, show thy mercy upon us;

People
R. And grant us thy salva-tion.

V. Endue thy ministers with right-eous-ness;

R. And make thy chosen people joy-ful.

V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

R. For only in thee can we live in safe-ty.

V. Lord, keep this nation un-der thy care;

R. And guide us in the way of jus-tice and truth.

V. Let thy way be known up-on earth;

R. Thy saving health among all na-tions.

V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgot-ten;

R. Nor the hope of the poor be ta-ken a-way.

V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;

R. And sustain us with thy Holy Spi-rit.

The Collect for the Third Sunday of Advent

Stir up thy power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let thy bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be honor and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

A Collect for Sundays

O God, who makest us glad with the weekly remembrance of the glorious resurrection of thy Son our Lord: Grant us this day such blessing through our worship of thee, that the days to come may be spent in thy favor; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

A Collect for Grace

O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, who hast safely brought us to the beginning of this day: Defend us in the same with thy mighty power; and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger; but that we, being ordered by thy governance, may do always what is righteous in thy sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

The Intercessions

The Intercessor says

Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Almighty and ever living God, who in thy holy Word hast taught us to make prayers, and supplications, and to give thanks for all men: Receive these our prayers which we offer unto thy divine Majesty, beseeching thee to inspire continually the Universal Church with the spirit of truth, unity, and concord; and grant that all those who do confess thy holy Name may agree in the truth of thy holy Word, and live in unity and godly love.

Lord, hear our prayer

Give grace, O heavenly Father, to all bishops and other ministers, especially Michael, the Presiding Bishop of the Episcopal Church; Lawrence, GERALYN and Daniel, Bishops of the Diocese of Long Island; and Johncy, our Bishop-in-Residence, that they may, both by their life and doctrine, set forth thy true and lively Word, and rightly and duly administer thy holy Sacraments.

Lord, hear our prayer

And to all thy people give thy heavenly grace, and especially to this congregation here present; that, with meek heart and due reverence, they may hear and receive thy holy Word, truly serving thee in holiness and righteousness all the days of their life.

Lord, hear our prayer

We beseech thee also so to rule the hearts of those who bear the authority of government in this and every land, especially the President of the United States, the members of Congress, and all regional and local authorities, that they may be led to wise decisions and right actions for the welfare and peace of the world.

Lord, hear our prayer

Open, O Lord, the eyes of all people to behold thy gracious hand in all thy works, that, rejoicing in thy whole creation, they may honor thee with their substance, and be faithful stewards of thy bounty.

Lord, hear our prayer

And we most humbly beseech thee, of thy goodness, O Lord, to comfort and succor Andrea, Anthony, Austin, Autumn, Betty, Bryce, Carolyn, Chris, Curt, David, Diane, Elinor, Ellen, Emily, George, Hannah, Greg, James, Joel, John, John H., Joy, Kim, Manuel, Margaret, Mark, Mary, Michelle, Nancy, Robert, Roger, Rose, Sarah Grace, Shanti, Theresa, Tria, William; and all those who, in this transitory life, are in trouble, sorrow, need, sickness, or any other adversity.

Lord, hear our prayer

We pray for those in military service, and especially for Christian, Eileen, John, Kyle, Robert, and Stephen;

Lord, hear our prayer

For the unemployed and underemployed; for all who suffer from addictions; for all who suffer chronic illness, and for all caregivers; . . . For our companion dioceses of Torit and Ecuador-Central, and for mercy, peace, and justice among all peoples, especially those whose lives have been devastated by natural disasters, terrorism, war, famine, tyranny, or injustice; And for any other special needs of this congregation, I invite your intercessions now, silently or aloud.

Lord, hear our prayer

Grant these our prayers, O Father, for Jesus Christ's sake, our only Mediator and Advocate. Amen.

The Peace

The Holy Communion

The Hymn at the Offering
Rejoice, rejoice believers

The Hymnal 1982, #68
Llangloffan

1 Re - joice! re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear!
2 See that your lamps are burn - ing, re - ple-nish them with oil;
3 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;

The eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
look now for your sal - va - tion, the end of sin and toil.
a - rise, thou Sun so longed for, a - bove this dark - ened sphere!

The Bride - groom is a - ris - ing, and soon he will draw nigh;
The mar - riage - feast is wait - ing, the gates wide o - pen stand;
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see

up, watch in ex - pec - ta - tion! at mid - night comes the cry.
rise up, ye heirs of glo - ry, the Bride - groom is at hand!
the day of earth's re - demp - tion, and ev - er be with thee!

Words: Laurentius Laurenti (1660-1722), 1; Sarah B. Findlater (1823-1907), alt.
Music: *Llangloffan* melody from *Hymnau a Thonau er Gwasanaeth yr Eghrys yng Nghymru*, 1865

The Great Thanksgiving

Celebrant *People*
 The Lord be with you. And with thy spi - rit.

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

Celebrant
 Let us give thanks un - to our Lord God.

People
 It is meet and right so to do.

The Celebrant continues

It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto thee, O Lord, holy Father, almighty, everlasting God. Because thou didst send thy 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 with Angels and Archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify thy glorious Name; evermore praising thee, and saying,

Sanctus

The Hymnal 1982, S 113

John Merbecke

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of Hosts:
 Heaven and earth are full of thy glo - ry. Glo - ry be
 to thee, O Lord Most High. Bless - ed is he that com - eth
 in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

Then the Celebrant continues

All glory be to thee, O Lord our God, for that thou didst create heaven and earth, and didst make us in thine own image; and, of thy tender mercy, didst give thine only Son Jesus Christ to take our nature upon him, and to suffer death upon the cross for our redemption. He made there a full and perfect sacrifice for the whole world; and did institute, and in his holy Gospel command us to continue, a perpetual memory of that his precious death and sacrifice, until his coming again.

For in the night in which he was betrayed, he took bread; and when he had given thanks to thee, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying, "Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

Likewise, after supper, he took the cup; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, saying, "Drink this, all of you; for this is my Blood of the New Covenant, which is shed for you, and for many, for the remission of sins. Do this, as oft as ye shall drink it, in remembrance of me."

Wherefore, O Lord and heavenly Father, we thy people do celebrate and make, with these thy holy gifts which we now offer unto thee, the memorial thy Son hath commanded us to make; having in remembrance his blessed passion and precious death, his mighty resurrection and glorious ascension; and looking for his coming again with power and great glory.

And we most humbly beseech thee, O merciful Father, to hear us, and, with thy Word and Holy Spirit, to bless and sanctify these gifts of bread and wine, that they may be unto us the Body and Blood of thy dearly-beloved Son Jesus Christ.

And we earnestly desire thy fatherly goodness to accept this our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, whereby we offer and present unto thee, O Lord, our selves, our souls and bodies. Grant, we beseech thee, that all who partake of this Holy Communion may worthily receive the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son Jesus Christ, and be filled with thy grace and heavenly benediction; and also that we and all thy whole Church may be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us, and we in him; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord;

By whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Ghost all honor and glory be unto thee, O Father Almighty, world without end. **AMEN.**

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

Our Fa - ther, who art in hea - ven, hal - low - ed
be thy Name, thy king - dom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in hea - ven. Give us this day our
dai - ly bread. And for - give us our tres - pas - ses,
as we for - give those who tres - pass a - gainst us. And lead

us not in - to temp - ta - tion, but de - liv - er us
 from e - vil. For thine is the king - dom, and the power,
 and the glo - ry, for ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

The Breaking of the Bread

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast.

Fraction Anthem - O Lamb of God

The Hymnal 1982, S 157

John Merbecke

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.

We do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord whose property is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. *Amen.*

Hymn at the Communion

O heavenly Word, eternal Light

The Hymnal 1982, #63
Verbum supernum prodiens

1 O heaven - ly Word, e - ter - nal Light,
2 pour light up - on us from a - bove,
3 and when, as judge, thou draw - est nigh
4 O let us not, for e - vil past,
*5 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son,
1 be - got - ten of the Fa - ther's might,
2 and fire our hearts with ar - dent love,
3 the se - crets of our hearts to try,
4 be driv - en from thy face at last,
5 and God the Spi - rit, ev - er One,
1 who in these lat - ter days wast born
2 that, as we hear thy truth to - day,
3 to rec - om - pense each hid - den sin
4 but with thy saints for ev - er - more
5 praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry be
1 for bless - ing to a world for - lorn;
2 all wrong de - sires may burn a - way;
3 and bid the saints their reign be - gin;
4 be - hold thee, love thee, and a - dore.
5 from age to age e - ter - nal - ly.

Words: Latin, ca. 7th cent.; tr. *Hymnal 1982* Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Verbum supernum prodiens*, plainsong, Mode 2, Nevers MS., 13th cent.; acc. Howard Don Smith (b. 1932) Copyright ©1984, Howard Don Smith. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

The Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant *Let us pray.*

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee for that thou dost feed us, in these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favor and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs, through hope, of thy everlasting kingdom. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

The Prayer of St. Richard

Lord Jesus Christ, Most Merciful Redeemer, Friend and Brother,
help us this day and everyday to see Thee more clearly,
to follow Thee more nearly, to love Thee more dearly,
for Thy Name's sake. Amen.

The Post Communion Hymn

The King shall come when morning dawns

The Hymnal 1982, #73

St. Stephen

1 The King shall come when morn - ing dawns and
2 Not, as of old, a lit - tle child, to
3 The King shall come when morn - ing dawns and
4 and let the end - less bliss be - gin, by
5 The King shall come when morn - ing dawns and

1 light tri - um - phant breaks; when beau - ty gilds the
2 bear, and fight, and die, but crowned with glo - ry
3 earth's dark night is past; O haste the ris - ing
4 wear - y saints fore - told, when right shall tri - umph
5 light and beau - ty brings; Hail, Christ the Lord! Thy

1 east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes.
2 like the sun that lights the morn - ing sky.
3 of that morn, the day that e'er shall last;
4 o - ver wrong, and truth shall be ex - tolled.
5 peo - ple pray, come quick - ly, King of kings.

Words: Greek, tr. John Brownlie (1859-1925) Music: St. Stephen, William Jones (1726-1800), alt.

The Advent Blessing and Dismissal

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. *Amen.*

Bishop Let us bless the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Voluntary: Preludum in C Major

Dietrich Buxtehude



What is the Way of Love?

The Way of Love is a way of life. More than a program or curriculum, it is a return to the ancient pathways and Rules of Life that followers of Jesus have observed for centuries. They knew the power of commitment to a core set of practices – *Turn, Learn, Pray, Worship, Bless, Go, Rest* – and the power of gathering in a small group where you find love and support for living into these commitments. If we hope to not only worship Jesus but to grow more like him and bear his redeeming love in the world, we can adopt a rule of life like the Way of Love and find a community with which to practice it.

What is a Rule of Life? How Do I Begin?

A Rule of Life is an intentional commitment to a set of practices that provide guidance, rhythm and inspiration for living a beautiful, meaningful and holy life. As we place these practices at the heart of our daily lives and join with companions who share the commitment, we grow more and more in the unselfish, hope-filled Way of Love that Jesus embodied in the world.

Exploring and Living the Practices

We invite you to take time exploring these practices for living a Jesus-centered life. Sit with the words from scripture and from the Book of Common Prayer, pray over the practice, reflect and discern where God is calling you, and note the “Helpful Terms” at the end if you want to learn a little more. And remember: no one follows Jesus all alone. The ideal way to live the Way of Love is in a community of love, support and accountability.

THE WAY OF LOVE

Practices for Jesus-Centered Life

TURN	Pause, listen, and choose to follow Jesus
LEARN	Reflect on Scripture each day, especially Jesus’ life and teachings
PRAY	Dwell intentionally with God each day
WORSHIP	Gather in community weekly to thank, praise, and draw near God
BLESS	Share faith and unselfishly give and serve
GO	Cross boundaries, listen deeply, and live like Jesus
REST	Receive the gift of God’s grace, peace, and restoration



BULLETIN INSERTS

December 16, 2018 – Advent 3 (C) Third Week of Advent: Journeying with Community

As we continue our Advent walk, we invite you to see the Way of Love as a journey that includes the community. The witness of Zechariah and Elizabeth who bring infant John to the Temple to be circumcised reminds us of the importance of our faith community to sustaining the Way of Love. Just as the community did for John’s family, communities provide a place for discernment, sometimes challenging us and other times affirming us. Communities celebrate and mark important moments along the journey.

Sunday, December 16

WORSHIP

Pray for each person as they receive communion. Imagine who you would like to see at church next week. Invite them to church today.

Monday, December 17

GO

Read your local news. Where is reconciliation needed? Pray for healing

Tuesday, December 18

LEARN

Read Luke 1:57-80. Name three ways in which your faith community challenges you to practice the Way of Love. Share your list with a member of your community.

Wednesday, December 19

PRAY

Gather with your faith community for a short time of prayer today.

Thursday, December 20

BLESS

Identify a blessing you have that you could give away. Then share this blessing with your church, a local ministry, or your community.

Friday, December 21

TURN

Read the General Confession in an unfamiliar location—in the park, at work, at school, or on the bus. What does the prayer invite you to turn from in that location? What does it invite you to turn toward?

Saturday, December 22

REST

How can you or your community open yourselves to people in need of rest and relief from overwork? From oppression? From violence?



THE WAY OF LOVE
Practices for Jesus-Centered Life

For more Advent resources related to the Way of Love, visit episcopalchurch.org/wayoflove. There, you’ll find links to the full Advent curriculum *Journeying the Way of Love*, as well as a nine-session curriculum for use anytime, a printable Advent calendar, video, and much more.

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— St. Peter's by the Sea Episcopal Church —

A parish in the Episcopal Diocese of Long Island

The Most Reverend Michael B. Curry

The Right Reverend Lawrence C. Provenzano, DD

The Right Reverend Geralyn Wolf

The Right Reverend Daniel Allotey

The Right Reverend Johncy Itty, DD

Mark Engelhardt

Sara Merrigan

Linda Ruggieri

Presiding Bishop

Diocesan Bishop

Assistant Bishop

Assisting Bishop

Bishop-in-Residence

Associate for Administration, Liturgy, and Music

Preschool Director

Financial Administrator

The Wardens and Vestry of the Parish

Salvatore Basile, Senior Warden

Brian Clark, Junior Warden

Lisa Hallett, Clerk

Linda Brady

Roger Burmeister

William Crawford

Jean Gunn

George Justice

Bill Kern

Kathleen Parks

Clyde Payne



Praising God, Serving Neighbor

*We seek to worship the Lord as one loving family
by serving our parish and community
through prayer, music, education, and outreach*