

HYMN: “O Come, O Come Emmanuel”

O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

O come, O Branch of Jesse, free your own from Satan’s tyranny; from depths of hell your people save, and give them vict’ry o’er the grave. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

O come, O Key of David, come; and open wide our heav’nly home; make safe the way that leads on high, and close the path to misery. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Almighty God, to 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 your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Most merciful god, **we confess that we are captive to sin and cannot free ourselves. 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. For the sake of your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways, to the glory of your holy name. Amen.**

In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for his sake God forgives us all our sins. As a called and ordained minister of the church of Christ, and by his authority, I therefore declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the ☩ Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

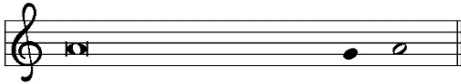
OPENING HYMN #249: “On Jordan’s Bank the Baptist’s Cry”

GREETING

P The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C And also with you.

KYRIE



In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal - vation, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



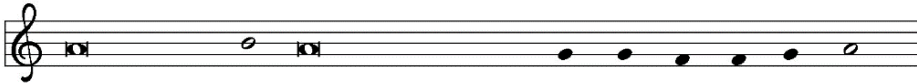
For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the church of God,



and for the unity of all, let us pray to the Lord.



Lord, have mer - cy.



For this holy house, and for all who offer here their wor-ship and praise,



let us pray to the Lord.

Lord have mer - cy.



Help, save, comfort, and de-fend us, gra-cious Lord. A - men.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C **And also with you.**

P Let us pray.

Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.**

FIRST READING: *Isaiah 11:1-10*

Isaiah describes the coming of a future, ideal ruler who will renew David's royal line (the stump of Jesse). Gifted by the spirit of God, this ruler will reign with perfect justice. Enmity and danger will be restored to harmony and peaceful coexistence.

(See back page for Reading)

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

SECOND READING: *Romans 15:4-13*

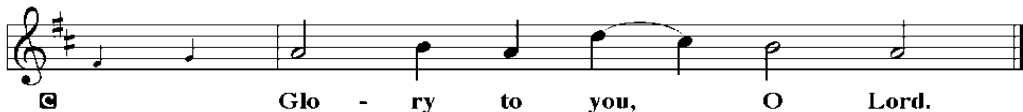
God's promise to include Gentiles within the circle of God's blessed people has been fulfilled in Jesus Christ. Christians live out their unity by welcoming and encouraging each other just as Christ has welcomed them into God's family.

⁴ 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. ⁵ May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, ⁶ so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁷ Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. ⁸ 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 ancestors ⁹ and that the gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, "Therefore I will confess you among the gentiles and sing praises to your name"; ¹⁰ and again he says, "Rejoice, O gentiles, with his people"; ¹¹ and again, "Praise the Lord, all you gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him"; ¹² and again Isaiah says, "The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the gentiles; in him the gentiles shall hope." ¹³ 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.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God!**

CHOIR ANTHEM: *"The Winter Rose" (by Joseph Martin)*

P The holy gospel according to St. Matthew, the 3rd chapter.

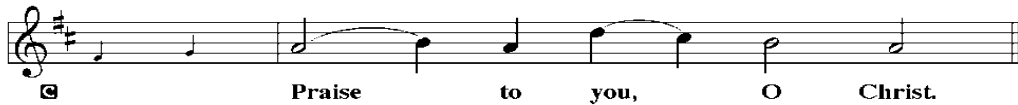


GOSPEL: Matthew 3:1-12

Just before Jesus begins his public ministry, John the Baptist appears, calling people to mend their ways and speaking of a powerful one who is to come.

(See back page for Reading)

P The gospel of the Lord.



SERMON

HYMN OF THE DAY #256: *"Comfort, Comfort Now My People"*

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, was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary and became truly human. 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, who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified, who 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.

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

SHARING OF THE PEACE

OFFERING

OFFERTORY HYMN #717: *"Let Justice Flow Like Streams"*

OFFERTORY PRAYER

P Let us pray. God of all creation,

C all you have made is good, and your love endures forever. You bring forth bread from the earth and fruit from the vine. Nourish us with these gifts, that we might be for the world signs of your gracious presence in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

This musical score is for the hymn 'The Great Thanksgiving'. It consists of four staves of music in the key of D major (indicated by two sharps: F# and C#). The melody is simple and hymn-like, using mostly quarter and half notes with some eighth notes. The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words hyphenated across lines. The first staff ends with a double bar line, and the second staff also has a double bar line. The third and fourth staves end with single bar lines.

P It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise.....we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, Lord God of pow'r and might,

heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry.

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

in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

This musical score continues the hymn with a Gloria section. It consists of four staves of music in the key of D major. The melody is more varied, including eighth and sixteenth notes. The lyrics are written below the notes, with some words hyphenated across lines. The first staff ends with a double bar line, and the second staff also has a double bar line. The third and fourth staves end with single bar lines.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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, forever and ever. **Amen.**

COMMUNION

LAMB OF GOD

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us thy peace, grant us thy peace.

After all have communed:

P Now may the body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in his grace.

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

O God, we give you thanks that you have set before us this feast, the body and blood of your Son. By your Spirit strengthen us to serve all in need and to give ourselves away as bread for the hungry, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

BLESSING

CLOSING HYMN #264: *"Prepare the Royal Highway"*

SENDING

P Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

WELCOME TO RESURRECTION!

Congregational Meeting This Morning: There will be a brief congregational meeting at 9:30 a.m., to vote on the affirmation of the contract for the parsonage.

Holiday Progressive Dinner: Today is the final day to sign up! Come enjoy a Christmas celebration at Resurrection's Progressive Dinner event on Saturday, December 20, beginning at 5:30 p.m. and ending around 9:00 p.m. Cost: \$35 per person; if you have signed up but not yet paid, please stop by the sign-up table to pay.

Children's Chapel: Our Children's Chapel meets during the 10:00 a.m. service utilizing StoryMakers NYC zines. We read the story and retell it by playing all the parts, putting ourselves in the narrative and responding with creativity through art! We finish with prayer and a snack and head back to church just in time for communion. Please encourage and invite your friends or family with kids to join us.

Christmas Poinsettias: If you would like to purchase a poinsettia for the sanctuary at Christmas, please pick up a form on the table in the narthex and return to the office with cash or check (or place in the offering plate) no later than Sunday, December 21. Plants are \$20 each.

Beer and Carols: Beer and Carols holiday sing-along at the Wayfarer tonight, December 7, from 6:30-9:00. See this week's newsletter for ticket information.

LCR Angel Tree: This Christmas, be an angel to a child or family in need by choosing an angel from our Angel Tree! Shop, wrap and return gifts with tags by December 14.

Youth Envelope Fundraiser: Support our students going to Japan in June of 2026 by choosing an envelope from our wooden board with envelopes and fill one with the dollar amount provided on the envelope. Place the entire envelope (cash or check) in the offering. If all 140 envelopes are filled, we will raise \$10,000 for our students' trip.

New Members: If you are interested in becoming a member of Resurrection, please contact Susan in the church office at 714.962.5005, or at office@lcrhb.org. We will be receiving new members early in the new year.

Holly Jolly Concert and Reception: Join us next Sunday at 6:00 p.m. for a Christmas Concert featuring the HB Brass Ensemble and Victorian Carolers. Following the concert, there will be a dessert reception in Bercaw Hall. If you would like to bring some cookies or other dessert for the reception, please sign up with Susan in the church office.

Christmas Caroling Opportunities: On Wednesday, December 17, at 10:30 a.m., we'll drive to some of our homebound parishioners to sing Christmas carols. If you would like to join in this wonderful outreach opportunity, please contact Susan in the office at 714.962.5005, or office@lcrhb.org, so we can plan our visits for that morning.

Christmas Bingo Night: Join us on Thursday, December 18, for a cozy, joy-filled night of food, fellowship and festive bingo fun! Wear your favorite Christmas pajamas and bring a dish to share! Great prizes and fun for all! Potluck dinner at 5:30; games start at 6:00.

End-of-Year Giving: Now is a great time to consider a year-end gift to LCR! If you have a Mandatory Minimum Disbursement from an IRA or a 401K, stocks, bonds or other investments, please consider giving to our church to help us continue our work for God in Huntington Beach and beyond. Information on LCR's stock account can be found in the narthex or from Susan in the office.

Monday Morning Bible Study: Bible study meets each Monday at 10:00 in T. Hall. We are studying the Gospel of Matthew. Everyone is invited!

Adult Forum: The Adult Forum for December 10 has been cancelled; we will meet on December 17 at 4:30 as planned to cover the last two sessions of Pastor Tim Keller's meditations on Advent.