

A SERVICE OF WORD
AND SACRAMENT
THE SECOND SUNDAY OF
CHRISTMAS



CHRISTCHURCH
ANGLICAN

4 JANUARY 2026

A Service of Word and Sacrament

Processional Hymn 119 *Please stand*

As With Gladness



1 As with glad - ness men of old did the guid - ing star be - hold;
2 As with joy - ful steps they sped to that low - ly man - ger - bed;
3 As they of - fered gifts most rare at that man - ger rude and bare;
4 Ho - ly Je - sus! ev - ery day keep us in the nar - row way;
5 In the heaven - ly coun - try bright, need they no cre - a - ted light;

1 as with joy they hailed its light, lead - ing on - ward, beam - ing bright;
2 there to bend the knee be - fore him whom heaven and earth a - dore;
3 so may we with ho - ly joy, pure and free from sin's al - loy,
4 and, when earth - ly things are past, bring our ran - somed souls at last
5 thou its light, its joy, its crown, thou its sun which goes not down:

1 so, most gra - cious Lord, may we ev - er - more be led to thee.
2 so may we with will - ing feet ev - er seek the mer - cy - seat.
3 all our cost - liest trea - sures bring, Christ! to thee, our heaven - ly King.
4 where they need no star to guide, where no clouds thy glo - ry hide.
5 there for ev - er may we sing al - le - lu - ias to our King.

Words: William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898). Music: Dix, melody Conrad Kocher (1786-1872); arr. William Henry Monk (1823-1889);
harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906

The Opening Acclamation

Celebrant For unto us a child is born,
People Unto us a son is given.

The Collect for Purity

Celebrant and people

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

The Summary of the Law

Hear what our Lord Jesus Christ says: You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the first and great commandment. And the second is like it: You shall love your neighbor as yourself. On these two commandments depend all the Law and the Prophets.

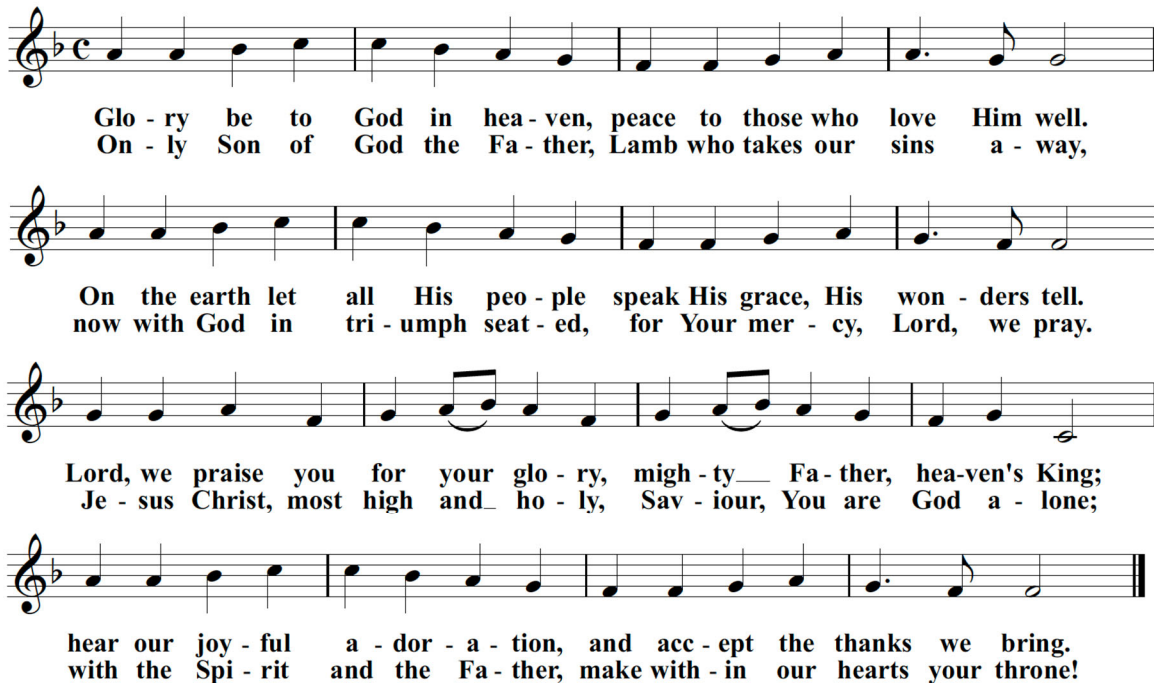
Matthew 22:37-40

The Trisagion

Holy God,
Holy and Mighty,
Holy Immortal One,
Have mercy upon us.

Song of Praise

Ode to Joy



Glo - ry be to God in hea - ven, peace to those who love Him well.
On - ly Son of God the Fa - ther, Lamb who takes our sins a - way,

On the earth let all His peo - ple speak His grace, His won - ders tell.
now with God in tri - umph seat - ed, for Your mer - cy, Lord, we pray.

Lord, we praise you for your glo - ry, migh - ty Fa - ther, hea - ven's King;
Je - sus Christ, most high and ho - ly, Sav - iour, You are God a - lone;

hear our joy - ful a - dor - a - tion, and acc - ept the thanks we bring.
with the Spi - rit and the Fa - ther, make with - in our hearts your throne!

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People **And with your spirit.**
Celebrant Let us pray.

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

..... The Liturgy of the Word

The First Lesson *Please be seated*

Jeremiah 31:7-14

⁷ For thus says the LORD: "Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob, and raise shouts for the chief of the nations; proclaim, give praise, and say, 'O LORD, save your people, the remnant of Israel.' ⁸ Behold, I will bring them from the north country and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth, among them the blind and the lame, the pregnant woman and she who is in

labor, together; a great company, they shall return here. ⁹ With weeping they shall come, and with pleas for mercy I will lead them back, I will make them walk by brooks of water, in a straight path in which they shall not stumble, for I am a father to Israel, and Ephraim is my firstborn. ¹⁰ Hear the word of the LORD, O nations, and declare it in the coastlands far away; say, 'He who scattered Israel will gather him, and will keep him as a shepherd keeps his flock.' ¹¹ For the LORD has ransomed Jacob and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him. ¹² They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion, and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the LORD, over the grain, the wine, and the oil, and over the young of the flock and the herd; their life shall be like a watered garden, and they shall languish no more. ¹³ Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance, and the young men and the old shall be merry. I will turn their mourning into joy; I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow. ¹⁴ I will feast the soul of the priests with abundance, and my people shall be satisfied with my goodness, declares the LORD."

Lector The Word of the Lord

People **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm 84

- 1 How lovely are your dwellings,
 O LORD God of hosts!
- 2 My soul has a desire and longing to enter into the courts of the Lord;
 my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
- 3 Indeed, the sparrow has found her a house, and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young,
 even your altars, O LORD of hosts, my King and my God.
- 4 Blessed are they who dwell in your house;
 they will be always praising you.
- 5 Blessed is the one whose strength is in you,
 in whose heart are your ways,
- 6 Who going through the valley of misery uses it for a well;
 indeed, the early rains fill the pools with water.
- 7 They will go from strength to strength,
 and the God of gods shall be seen by them in Zion.
- 8 O LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer;
 hearken, O God of Jacob.
- 9 Behold, O God, our defender,
 and look upon the face of your Anointed.
- 10 For one day in your courts
 is better than a thousand;
- 11 I would rather be a door-keeper in the house of my God
 than dwell in the tents of ungodliness.
- 12 For the LORD God is a light and defense;
 the LORD will give grace and honor, and no good thing shall he withhold from those who live a godly life.
- 13 O LORD God of hosts,
 blessed is the one who puts his trust in you.

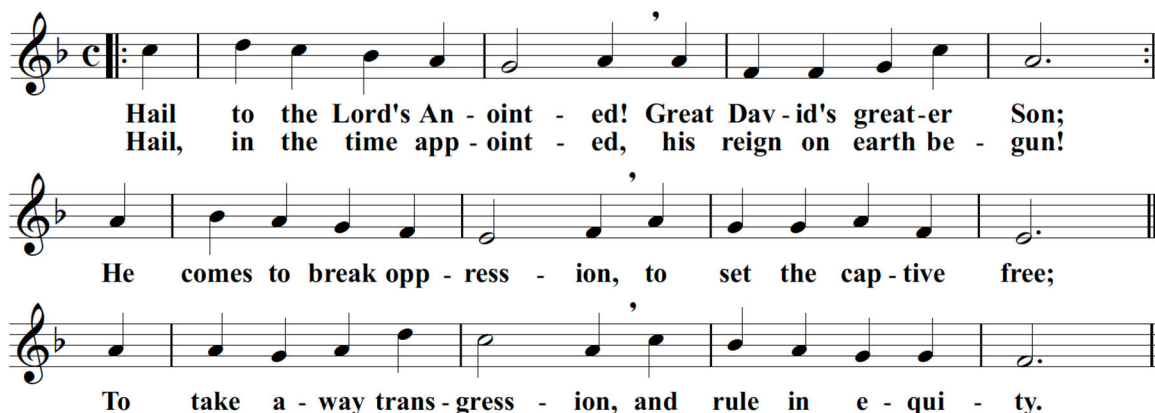
³ Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, ⁴ even as he chose us in him before the foundation of the world, that we should be holy and blameless before him. In love ⁵ he predestined us for adoption to himself as sons through Jesus Christ, according to the purpose of his will, ⁶ to the praise of his glorious grace, with which he has blessed us in the Beloved. ⁷ In him we have redemption through his blood, the forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of his grace, ⁸ which he lavished upon us, in all wisdom and insight ⁹ making known to us the mystery of his will, according to his purpose, which he set forth in Christ ¹⁰ as a plan for the fullness of time, to unite all things in him, things in heaven and things on earth. ¹¹ In him we have obtained an inheritance, having been predestined according to the purpose of him who works all things according to the counsel of his will, ¹² so that we who were the first to hope in Christ might be to the praise of his glory. ¹³ In him you also, when you heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and believed in him, were sealed with the promised Holy Spirit, ¹⁴ who is the guarantee of our inheritance until we acquire possession of it, to the praise of his glory.

Lector The Word of the Lord

People Thanks be to God.

Sequence Hymn 616 *Please stand*

Hail to the Lord's Anointed



Hail to the Lord's An - oint - ed! Great Dav - id's great - er Son;
Hail, in the time app - oint - ed, his reign on earth be - gun!
He comes to break opp - ress - ion, to set the cap - tive free;
To take a - way trans - gress - ion, and rule in e - qui - ty.

Verse 2

*He comes with succour speedy
To those who suffer wrong;
To help the poor and needy,
And bid the weak be strong;
To give them songs for sighing,
Their darkness turn to light,
Whose souls, condemned and dying,
Were precious in his sight.*

Verse 3

*He shall come down like showers
Upon the fruitful earth,
And love, joy, hope, like flowers,
Spring in his path to birth:
Before him on the mountains
Shall peace the herald go;
And righteousness in fountains
From hill to valley flow.*

Verse 4

*Kings shall fall down before him,
And gold and incense bring;
All nations shall adore him,
His praise all people sing;
To him shall prayer unceasing
And daily vows ascend;
His kingdom still increasing,
A kingdom without end.*

Verse 5

*O'er every foe victorious,
He on his throne shall rest,
From age to age more glorious,
All-blessing and all-blest:
The tide of time shall never
His covenant remove;
His name shall stand for ever;
That name to us is Love.*



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

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

²² Now Jesus' parents went to Jerusalem every year at the Feast of the Passover. ⁴² And when he was twelve years old, they went up according to custom. ⁴³ And when the feast was ended, as they were returning, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem. His parents did not know it, ⁴⁴ but supposing him to be in the group they went a day's journey, but then they began to search for him among their relatives and acquaintances, ⁴⁵ and when they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem, searching for him. ⁴⁶ After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. ⁴⁷ And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. ⁴⁸ And when his parents saw him, they were astonished. And his mother said to him, "Son, why have you treated us so? Behold, your father and I have been searching for you in great distress." ⁴⁹ And he said to them, "Why were you looking for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" ⁵⁰ And they did not understand the saying that he spoke to them. ⁵¹ And he went down with them and came to Nazareth and was submissive to them. And his mother treasured up all these things in her heart. ⁵² And Jesus increased in wisdom and in stature and in favor with God and man.

Gospeler The Gospel of the Lord.

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

The Sermon *Please be seated*

The Reverend J. Michael Chitwood

The Nicene Creed *Please stand*

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,
 maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, visible and invisible.
 We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only-begotten 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 from the Holy Spirit and 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,
 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.*

The Prayers of the People *Please kneel*

After each prayer, the People respond with the words "Hear our prayer."

The Confession of Sin *Please remain kneeling*

Celebrant and People

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.*

The Absolution

The Comfortable Words

The Celebrant 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 to me, all who labor and are heavy laden, and I will give you rest. *Matthew 11:28*

God so loved the world, that he gave his only-begotten Son, that whoever believes in Him shall not perish, but have eternal life. *John 3:16*

The saying is trustworthy and deserving of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. *1 Timothy 1:15*

If anyone sins, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous. He is the propitiation for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world. *1 John 2:1-2*

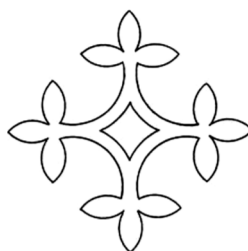
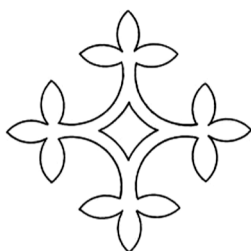
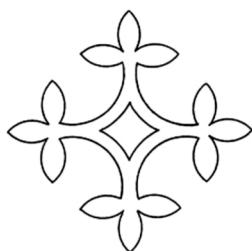
The Peace *Please stand*

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

People **And with your spirit.**

The ministers and people greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Welcome and Parish Announcements *Please be seated*




..... The Holy Communion

At the Setting of the Table


O Worship the Lord

The Congregation is invited to sing during the offertory

(vv. 1, 5)




O wor - ship the Lord in the beau - ty of hol - i - ness!
 Low at his feet lay thy bur - den of care - ful-ness;
 Fear not to en - ter his courts in the slen - der-ness
 O These, though we bring them in tremb - ling and fear - ful-ness,
 wor - ship the Lord in the beau - ty of hol - i - ness!




Bow down be - fore him, his glo - ry pro - claim.
 high on his heart he will bear it for thee,
 of the poor wealth thou wouldst reck - on as thine:
 he will ac - cept for the name that is dear.
 Bow down be - fore him, his glo - ry pro - claim.

(vv. 1, 5)



With gold of o - be - dience, and in - cense of low - li - ness,
 — Com - fort thy sorr - ows, and an - swer thy prayer - ful-ness,
 — Truth in its beau - ty, and love in its ten - der-ness,
 With Mor - nings of joy give for eve - nings of tear - ful-ness,
 gold of o - be - dience, and in - cense of low - li - ness,



kneel and a - dore him, the Lord is his name!
 gui - ding thy steps as may best for thee be.
 these are the offer - ings to lay on his shrine.
 trust for our tremb - ling and hope for our fear.
 kneel and a - dore him, the Lord is his name!



*If you'd like to give an offering this morning, you can place your gift in the offering plate,
 scan the QR code to the right, or visit our website and click on the "Give" tab.*



The Great Thanksgiving - Renewed Ancient Text

Please stand

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And with your spirit.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

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 gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary his mother, was made truly man, yet without the stain of sin, that we might be cleansed from sin and given the right to become your children. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:



The Sanctus

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and

might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

God of power and might, hea - ven and earth are

full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -

san - na in the high - est. 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Prayer of Consecration *Please kneel*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and when we had sinned against you and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent your only Son Jesus Christ into the world for our salvation. By the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary he became flesh and dwelt among us. In obedience to your will, he stretched out his arms upon the Cross and offered himself once for all, that by his suffering and death we might be saved. By his resurrection he broke the bonds of death, trampling Hell and Satan under his feet. As our great high priest, he ascended to your right hand in glory, that we might come with confidence before the throne of grace.

On the night that he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks, 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, Jesus 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 forgiveness of sins: Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, and we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Word and Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. Sanctify us also, that we may worthily receive this holy Sacrament, and be made one body with him, that he may dwell in us and we in him. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us with all your saints into the joy of your heavenly kingdom, where we shall see our Lord face to face.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

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

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

Celebrant Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

The Prayer of Humble Access

We do not presume to come to this, your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your abundant and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table; but you are the same Lord, whose character is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of your dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. **Amen.**

Invitation to Communion

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

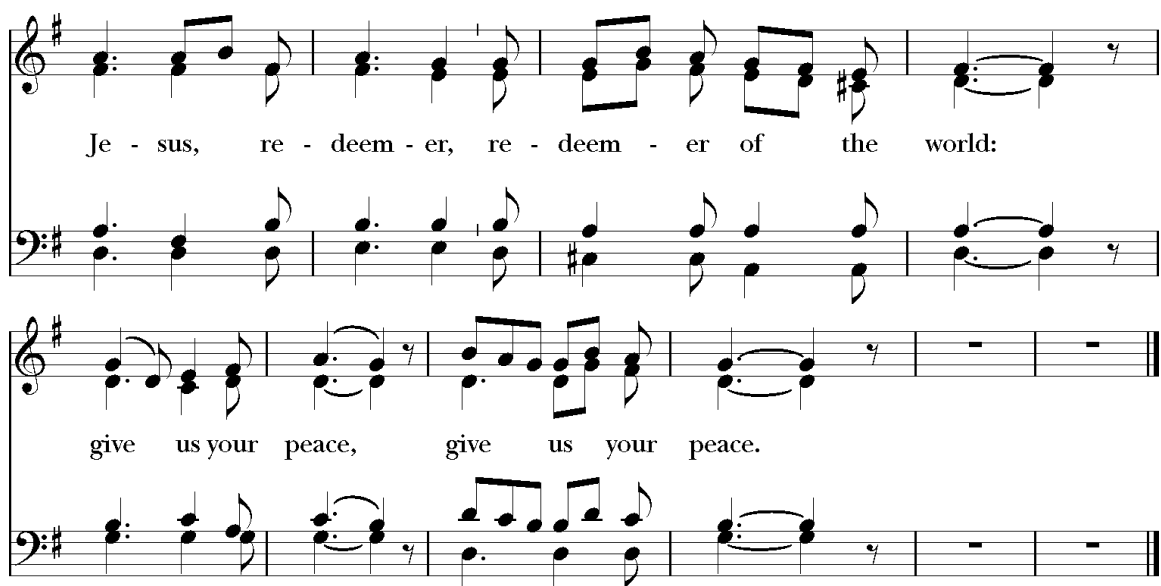
Please be seated

Fraction Anthem

Jesus, Lamb of God

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.



Communion Music

Are you hurting and broken within?
Overwhelmed by the weight of your sin?
Jesus is calling.
Have you come to the end of yourself?
Do you thirst for a drink from the well?
Jesus is calling.

Chorus

*O come to the altar
The Father's arms are open wide
Forgiveness was bought with
The precious blood of Jesus Christ*

Leave behind your regrets and mistakes.
Come today there's no reason to wait.
Jesus is calling.
Bring your sorrows and trade them for joy.
From the ashes a new life is born.
Jesus is calling.

Communion Music

There must be more than this.
O breath of God, come breathe within.
There must be more than this.
Spirit of God, we wait for you.

Fill us anew, we pray.

*Consuming fire, fan into flame
A passion for your name.
Spirit of God, fall in this place.
Lord, have your way.
Lord, have your way with us.*

O Come To The Altar

Bridge

*Oh what a Savior!
Isn't he wonderful?
Sing alleluia Christ is risen!
Bow down before him
For he is Lord of all!
Sing alleluia Christ is risen!*

Bear your cross as you wait for the crown.
Tell the world of the treasure you've found.

Consuming Fire

Come like a rushing wind.
Clothe us with passion from on high.
Now set the captives free.
Leave us abandoned to your praise.

Lord, let your glory fall.

Chorus

Stir it up in our hearts, Lord,
A passion for your name.

Communion Music

How Great is Our God

The splendour of a king,
Clothed in majesty,
Let all the earth rejoice.

He wraps himself in light,
And darkness tries to hide,
And trembles at his voice.

*How great is our God, sing with me,
How great is our God, and all will see
How great, how great is our God.*

Age to age he stands,
And time is in his hands,
Beginning and the end.

The Godhead, Three in One,
Father, Spirit, Son,
The Lion and the Lamb.

Chorus

Name above all names,
Worthy of all praise,
My heart will sing
How great is our God.

Chorus

Post Communion Prayer *Please kneel*

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

The Blessing of Christmas

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

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

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

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





1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are, bear - ing
 2 Born a King on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I
 3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I: in - cense
 4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a
 5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and



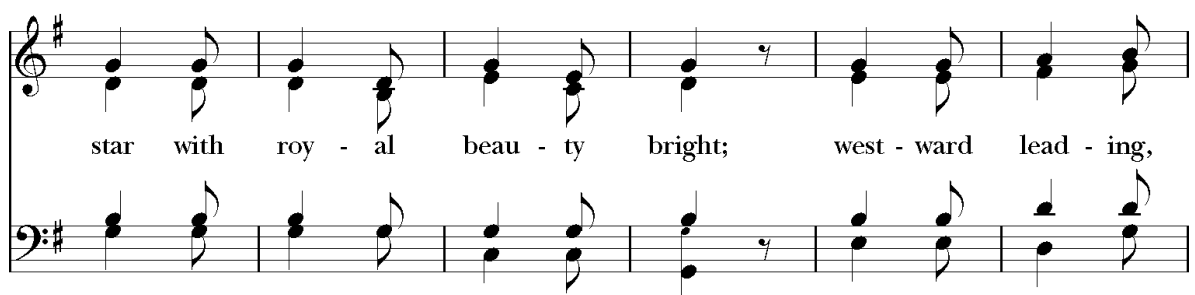
1 gifts we tra - verse a - far, field and foun - tain,
 2 bring to crown him a - gain, King for ev - er,
 3 owns a De - i - ty nigh; prayer and prais - ing,
 4 life of gath - er - ing gloom; sor - rowing, sigh - ing,
 5 God and Sac - ri - fice; heaven sings al - le -



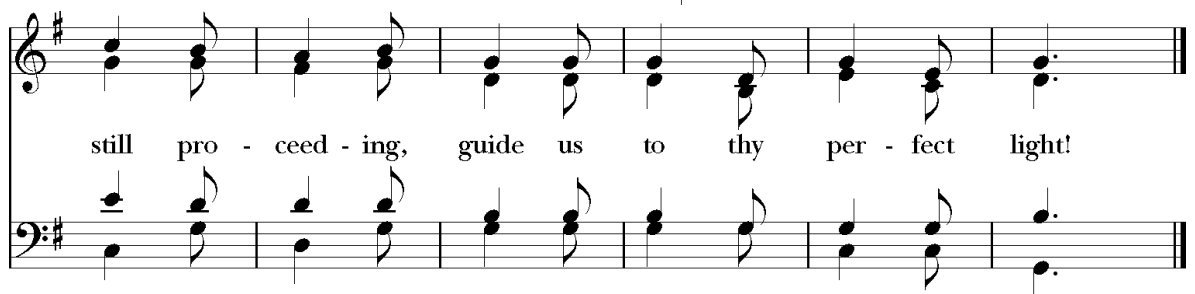
1 moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.
 2 ceas - ing nev - er o - ver us all to reign.
 3 glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship him, God Most High.
 4 bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.
 5 lu - ia: al - le - lu - ia the earth re - plies.



O star of won - der, star of night,



star with roy - al beau - ty bright; west - ward lead - ing,



still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!

The stanzas may be sung by three soloists: 1 and 5 by the ensemble; 2-4 by individuals; and the refrain by all.

Words: John Henry Hopkins, Jr. (1820-1891), alt. Music: *Three Kings of Orient*, John Henry Hopkins, Jr. (1820-1891)

The Dismissal

Gospeler God is good,

People **All the time!**

Gospeler All the time,

People **God is good!**

Gospeler Alleluia! Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ!

People **Thanks be to God! Alleluia!**



Serving in the Liturgy

Celebrant	The Reverend Canon Andrew M. Rowell
Gospeler	The Reverend Deacon Dollene W. McLemore
Assisting	The Reverend J. Michael Chitwood
Music Director	The Reverend Dr. Jack N.T. Lindsay
Vergers	David Berenguer and Dinah McLemore
Lectors and Chalice Bearers	Rick Plaskett, Charles Edmondson, Emma Durham
Crucifer	Stephen McLemore
Server	Wilson Craven
Gospel Torch Bearers	Haven Cornwell and Grashell Namale
Altar Guild	Ann newell, Catherine Woodson, and Linda Cobb
Greeters	The Daniel family
Prayer Team	Sally Ashurst, Bob Ashurst, Dee Mooty, Martha Moore, and the Daughters of the Holy Cross
Ushers	Marshall Simons, Harold Mann, Joseph Hixon, Don Hale, and Gene Crane



CHRISTCHURCH

ANGLICAN

Holy Eucharist: 9:30 am Sunday
Christian Education: 11 am Sundays, 6 pm on Wednesdays, and opportunities throughout the week

The Rev. Cn. Andrew M. Rowell - Rector
The Rev. Dr. Jack N.T. Lindsay - Associate Rector
The Rev. Dcn. Leah M. Slawson - Pastoral Associate for Adult Formation
The Rev. Alan L. Reid - Pastoral Associate for Prayer Ministries
The Rev. Dcn. Dollene W. McLemore - Pastoral Associate for Pastoral Care Ministries
The Rev. J. Michael Chitwood - Curate
The Rev. Cornelius Jackson - Director of Evangelism

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