# December 17, 2023 THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT



Prelude: IT CAME UPON A MIDNIGHT CLEAR Arranged by Pam Asberry Pam Asberry, Pianist

> Welcome! ¡Bienvenido!

Please prepare for worship by opening your heart, lowering your voice and silencing your cell phone.

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: As we draw closer to the birth of Christ, let us confess how we have failed to make the best use of this time to prepare for the Lord's coming.

—Silence for Reflection—

P: Lord God,

C: We praise you for sending light into this world in Jesus Christ. We confess however, that we have made ourselves content with the darkness in this world. In church we celebrate the promise of Jesus' coming, and we will

#### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

always love the story of his humble birth in **C**: the stable of Bethlehem, but when we leave the church we allow our preparation for Jesus' coming to be supplanted by cultural Christmas expectations. Forgive us for not opening our eyes to Jesus. Prepare us for his coming this Advent and Christmas. Help us rejoice in the light so that your grace can illuminate the darkened places of our hearts. AMEN.

### **CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

P: Isaiah promises, this is the time of God's favor, God's grace continues to proclaim release to the captives, sight to the blind, good News to the poor and freedom to the oppressed. Jesus comes to bring light, hope and salvation to all who will receive him. In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven!

#### C: Thanks be to God!

### GATHERING SONG Red Book # 270 Hark The Herald Angels Sing

Verse 1

- Hark! The herald angels sing,
- "Glory to the newborn king;
- peace on earth, and mercy mild,
- God and sinners reconciled."
- Joyful, all you nations, rise;
- join the triumph of the skies;
- with angelic hosts proclaim,
- "Christ is born in Bethlehem!"

Refrain

- Hark! The herald angels sing,
- "Glory to the newborn king!"

### GATHERING SONG Red Book # 270 Hark The Herald Angels Sing

Verse 2

- Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
- Christ, the everlasting Lord,
- late in time behold him come,
- offspring of a virgin's womb.
- Veiled in flesh the Godhead see!
- Hail, incarnate deity!
- Pleased as man with us to dwell,
- Jesus, our Emmanuel!

Refrain

- Hark! The herald angels sing,
- "Glory to the newborn king!"

### GATHERING SONG Red Book # 270 Hark The Herald Angels Sing

Verse 3

- Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace!
- Hail the Sun of righteousness!
- Light and life to all he brings,
- ris'n with healing in his wings.
- Mild he lays his glory by,
- born that we no more may die,
- born to raise each child of earth,
- born to give us second birth.

Refrain

Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn king!"

### GREETING

A: John the Baptist comes to hearld the coming of the Savior, Jesus Christ.

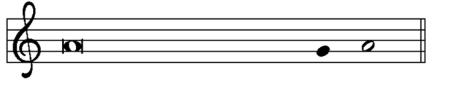
C: John came to "Prepare the Way" for the Lord to enter our world and our lives.

A: Receive this news with great joy!

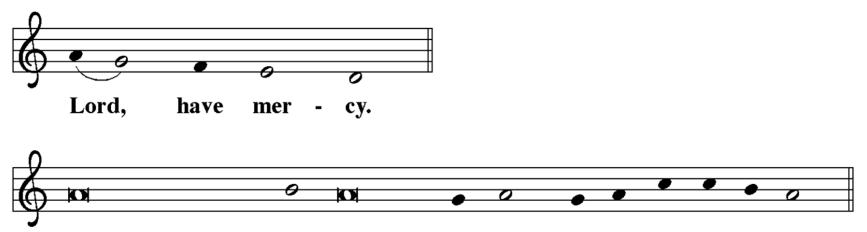
C: We come to watch, to wait, and to worship in the fierce joy of Jesus Christ, the coming Messiah.

A: Let us join our voices with John. Become the heralds of Jesus' coming, and share this joyous good news with all who will hear and receive it.

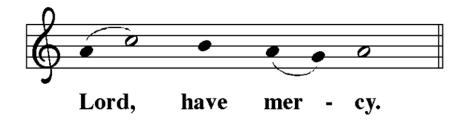
## **KYRIE**



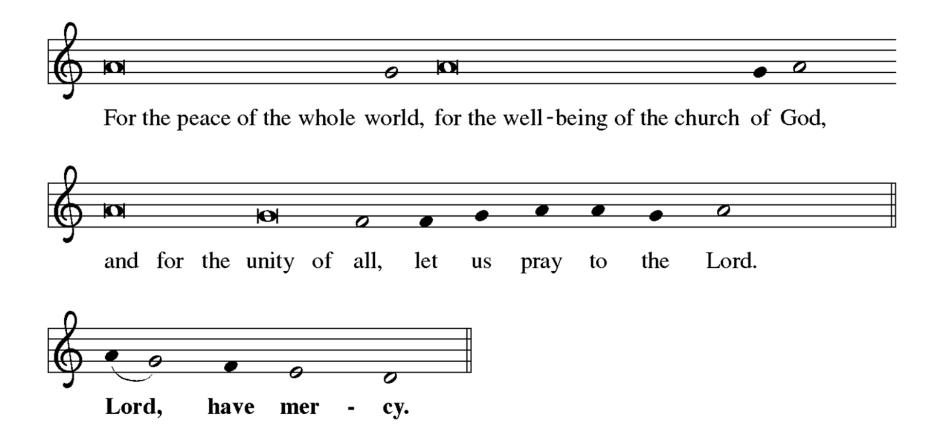
In peace, let us pray to the Lord.



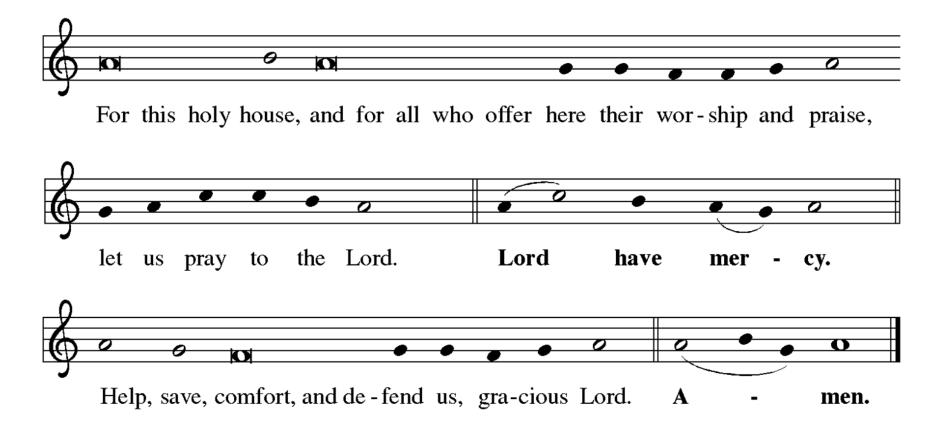
For the peace from a-bove, and for our sal-vation, let us pray to the Lord.



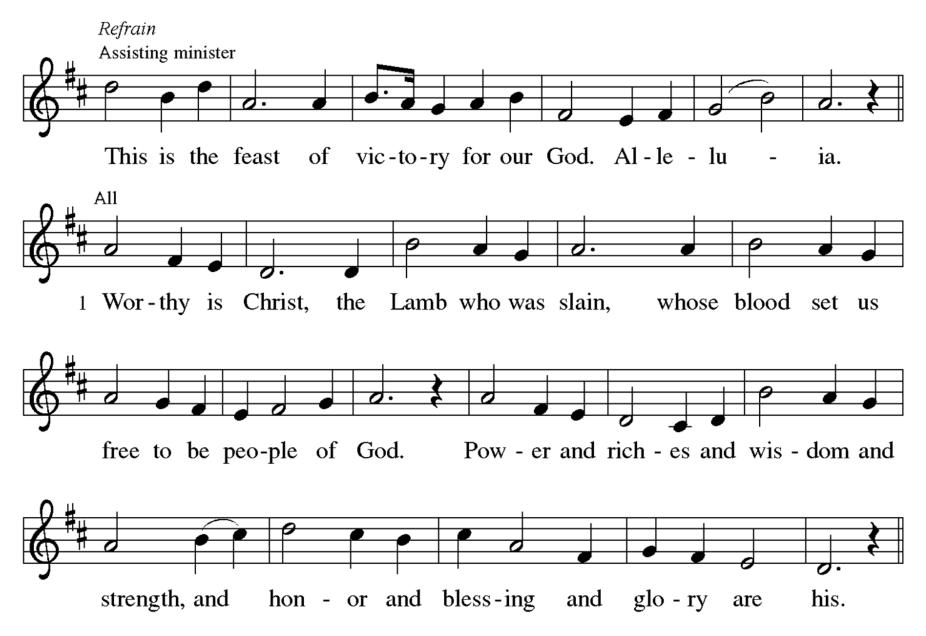
### **KYRIE**



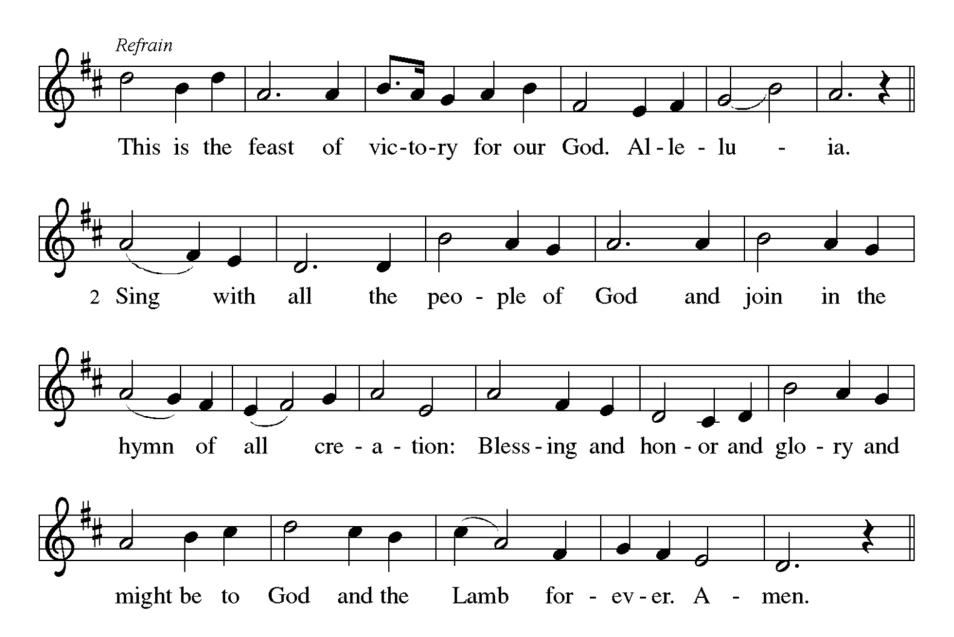
#### **KYRIE**



### **HYMN OF PRAISE**



### **HYMN OF PRAISE**



### **HYMN OF PRAISE**



#### PRAYER OF THE DAY

A: Jesus, our promised Messiah,

C: John the Baptist went ahead of you and proclaimed the good news of your coming. Encourage us to receive you with joy as our redeemer, and faithfully follow you. For you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. AMEN!

#### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH



God of hope and compassion: Just as John the Baptist came long ago in Judea to witness to your light, we remember that light he heralds is the savior of hope. Sometimes it seems our world is determined to extinguish hope and light. We admit that there are times when we feel the darkness is

#### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH



just too prevalent, too strong, and hope is just wishful thinking. As we draw closer to Christmas, let us begin to experience some of the hope and joy, Christ's coming brings to the world, light that will begin to extinguish some of the darkness. (John 1:6-8, 19-28) O come, O come, Emmanuel

### LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH Red Book # 240 Light One Candle To Watch For Messiah

Verse 3

Light three candles to watch for Messiah: let the light banish darkness. Lift your heads and lift high the gateway for the King of glory.



<sup>1</sup>The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; <sup>2</sup>to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn;

### PRIMERA LECTURA: Isaías 61: 1-4, 8 -11

El espíritu del Señor está sobre mí, porque el Señor me ha consagrado; me ha enviado a dar buenas noticias a los pobres, a aliviar a los afligidos, a anunciar libertad a los presos, libertad a los que están en la cárcel;<sup>2</sup> a anunciar el año favorable del Señor, el día en que nuestro Dios nos vengará de nuestros enemigos. Me ha enviado a consolar a todos los tristes,

<sup>3</sup>to provide for those who mourn in Zion-to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, to display his glory.

### PRIMERA LECTURA: Isaías 61: 1-4, 8 -11

<sup>3</sup> a dar a los afligidos de Sión una corona en vez de ceniza, perfume de alegría en vez de llanto, cantos de alabanza en vez de desesperación. Los llamarán «robles victoriosos», plantados por el Señor para mostrar su gloria.

<sup>4</sup>They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.<sup>8</sup>For I the LORD love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.

### PRIMERA LECTURA: Isaías 61: 1-4, 8 -11

<sup>4</sup> Se reconstruirán las viejas ruinas, se levantarán los edificios destruidos hace mucho, y se repararán las ciudades en ruinas. Porque el Señor ama la justicia, y odia el robo y el crimen. Él les dará fielmente su recompensa y hará con ellos una alianza eterna.

<sup>9</sup>Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed.

### PRIMERA LECTURA: Isaías 61: 1-4, 8 -11

<sup>9</sup> Sus descendientes serán famosos entre las naciones; todos los que los vean reconocerán que son un pueblo que el Señor ha bendecido.

<sup>10</sup>I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

### PRIMERA LECTURA: Isaías 61: 1-4, 8 -11

<sup>10</sup> ¡Cómo me alegro en el Señor! Me lleno de gozo en mi Dios, porque me ha brindado su salvación, ¡me ha cubierto de victoria! Soy como un novio que se pone su corona o una novia que se adorna con sus joyas.

<sup>11</sup>For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

### PRIMERA LECTURA: Isaías 61: 1-4, 8 -11

<sup>11</sup> Porque así como nacen las plantas de la tierra y brotan los retoños en un jardín, así hará el Señor que brote su victoria y que todas las naciones entonen cantos de alabanza.

- A: Word of God, Word of Life,
- C: Thanks be to God!

# PSALM: Psalm 126 We will speak the Psalm responsively. Please speak the verses in bold print.

A: <sup>1</sup>When were we like those who dream. C: <sup>2</sup>Then was our mouth filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy. Then they said among the nations, "The LORD has done great things for them."

A: <sup>3</sup>The LORD has done great things for us, and we are glad indeed.

C: <sup>4</sup>Restore our fortunes, O LORD, like the watercourses of the Negeb.

# PSALM: Psalm 126 We will speak the Psalm responsively. Please speak the verses in bold print.

- A: <sup>5</sup>Those who sowed with tears will reap with songs of joy.
- C: <sup>6</sup>Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

# **SECOND READING:**

### 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

<sup>16</sup>Rejoice always, <sup>17</sup>pray without ceasing, <sup>18</sup>give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.<sup>19</sup>Do not quench the Spirit. <sup>20</sup>Do not despise the words of prophets,

# SEGUNDA LECTURA 1 Tesalonicenses 5:16-24

<sup>16</sup> Estén siempre contentos.<sup>17</sup> Oren en todo momento.<sup>18</sup> Den gracias a Dios por todo, porque esto es lo que él quiere de ustedes como creyentes en Cristo Jesús. <sup>19</sup> No apaguen el fuego del Espíritu.<sup>20</sup> No desprecien el don de profecía.

# **SECOND READING:**

### 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

<sup>21</sup>but test everything; hold fast to what is good; <sup>22</sup>abstain from every form of evil. <sup>23</sup>May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

# SEGUNDA LECTURA

### 1 Tesalonicenses 5:16-24

<sup>21</sup> Sométanlo todo a prueba y retengan lo bueno.<sup>22</sup> Apártense de toda clase de mal. <sup>23</sup> Que Dios mismo, el Dios de paz, los haga a ustedes perfectamente santos, y les conserve todo su ser, espíritu, alma y cuerpo, sin defecto alguno, para la venida de nuestro Señor Jesucristo.

# **SECOND READING:**

### 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

<sup>24</sup>The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

# SEGUNDA LECTURA

### 1 Tesalonicenses 5:16-24

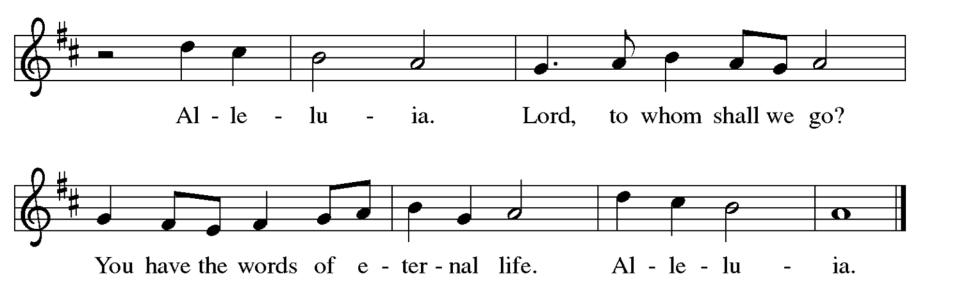
<sup>24</sup> El que los llama es fiel, y cumplirá todo esto.

A: Word of God, Word of Life,

### C: Thanks be to God!



# **GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**



P: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to John in the 1<sup>st</sup> chapter.

#### C: Glory to you, O Lord!

### GOSPEL READING: John 1:6-8, 19-28

6There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. 7He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. 8He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light.

### **EL EVANGELIO** Juan 1:6-8, 19-28

<sup>6</sup> Hubo un hombre llamado Juan, a quien Dios envió <sup>7</sup> como testigo, para que diera testimonio de la luz y para que todos creyeran por lo que él decía.<sup>8</sup> Juan no era la luz, sino uno enviado a dar testimonio de la luz.

### GOSPEL READING: John 1:6-8, 19-28

<sup>19</sup>This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" <sup>20</sup>He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah."

### **EL EVANGELIO** Juan 1:6-8, 19-28

<sup>19</sup> Éste es el testimonio de Juan, cuando las autoridades judías enviaron desde Jerusalén sacerdotes y levitas a preguntarle a Juan quién era él.<sup>20</sup> Y él confesó claramente:-Yo no soy el Mesías.

### GOSPEL READING: John 1:6-9, 19-28

<sup>21</sup>And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." <sup>22</sup>Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?"

## **EL EVANGELIO** Juan 1:6-9, 19-28

<sup>21</sup> Le volvieron a preguntar:—¿Quién eres, pues? ¿El profeta Elías? Juan dijo:-No lo soy. Ellos insistieron: ---Entonces, ¿eres el profeta que ha de venir?Contestó: —No..<sup>22</sup> Le dijeron: —¿ Quién eres, pues? Tenemos que llevar una respuesta a los que nos enviaron. ¿Qué nos puedes decir de ti mismo?

### GOSPEL READING: John 1:6-9, 19-28

<sup>23</sup>He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said.<sup>24</sup>Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. <sup>25</sup>They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?"

### **EL EVANGELIO** Juan 1:6-9, 19-28

<sup>23</sup> Juan les contestó:—Yo soy una voz que grita en el desierto: "Abran un camino derecho para el Señor", tal como dijo el profeta Isaías.<sup>24</sup> Los que fueron enviados por los fariseos a hablar con Juan, <sup>25</sup> le preguntaron: -Pues si no eres el Mesías, ni Elías ni el profeta, ¿por qué bautizas?

### GOSPEL READING: John 1:6-9, 19-28

<sup>26</sup>John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, <sup>27</sup>the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." <sup>28</sup>This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

P: The Gospel of the Lord,

# C: Praise to you, O

### **EL EVANGELIO** Juan 1:6-9, 19-28

<sup>26</sup> Juan les contestó: —Yo bautizo con agua; pero entre ustedes hay uno que no conocen<sup>27</sup> y que viene después de mí. Yo ni siquiera merezco desatarle la correa de sus sandalias.<sup>28</sup> Todo esto sucedió en el lugar llamado Betania, al otro lado del río Jordán, donde Juan estaba bautizando.

#### Children's Message

Pastor Mike





"Here's Johnny!"

> Pastor Mike Millum



### **SPECIAL MUSIC**

### TODAY A CHILD IS BORN

### WEEKDAY CLUB SINGERS

1. TODAY A CHILD IS BORN ON EARTH (TODAY A CHILD IS BORN ON EARTH) TODAY THE GLORY OF GOD SHINES EVERYWHERE FOR ALL OF THE WORLD

OH, JESUS, BORN ON THIS DAY HE IS OUR LIGHT AND SALVATION OH, JESUS, BORN ON THIS DAY HE IS THE KING OF ALL NATIONS



2. BEHOLD THE LAMB OF GOD HAS COME (BEHOLD THE LAMB OF GOD HAS COME) BEHOLD THE SAVIOR IS BORN SING OF HIS LOVE TO EVERYONE

OH, JESUS, BORN ON THIS DAY HEAVENLY CHILD IN A MANGER OH, JESUS, BORN ON THIS DAY HE IS OUR LORD AND OUR SAVIOR



#### 3. TODAY OUR HEARTS REJOICE IN HIM (TODAY OUR HEARTS REJOICE IN HIM) TODAY THE LIGHT OF HIS BIRTH FILLS US WITH HOPE AND BRINGS PEACE ON EARTH

OH, JESUS, BORN ON THIS DAY HE IS OUR LIGHT AND SALVATION OH, JESUS, BORN ON THIS DAY HE IS THE KING OF ALL NATIONS



TODAY A CHILD IS BORN ON FARTH (TODAY A CHILD IS BORN ON EARTH) (HE IS LIGHT, HE IS LOVE, HE IS GRACE) (BORN ON CHRISTMAS DAY) (HE IS LIGHT, HE IS LOVE, HE IS GRACE) (BORN ON CHRISTMAS DAY) (HE IS LIGHT, HE IS LOVE, HE IS GRACE) (BORN ON CHRISTMAS DAY) (HE IS LIGHT, HE IS LOVE, HE IS GRACE) (BORN ON CHRISTMAS DAY) (HE IS LIGHT, HE IS LOVE, HE IS GRACE) (BORN ON CHRISTMAS DAY)

C: 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,

#### **CREDO DE NICE**

C: Creemos en un solo Dios, Padre, todopoderoso, creador del cielo y de la tierra, de todo lo que es, visible e invisible.

Creemos en un solo Señor, Jesucristo, Hijo único de Dios, engendrado eternamente del Padre, Dios de Dios, luz de la luz, Dios verdadero de Dios verdadero,

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.

#### **CREDO DE NICE**

engendrado, no hecho, de un Ser con el Padre; por él fueron hechas todas las cosas.

Por nosotros y para nuestra salvación bajó del cielo,se encarnó del Espíritu Santo y de la virgen Maríay se hizo verdaderamente humano.

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.

#### **CREDO DE NICE**

Por nosotros fue crucificado bajo Poncio Pilato; padeció la muerte y fue sepultado.

Al tercer día resucitó conforme a las Escrituras; subió a los cielos y está sentado a la diestra del Padre.

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,\*

#### **CREDO DE NICE**

Vendrá de nuevo con gloria para juzgar a vivos y muertos, y su reino no tendrá fin.

Creemos en el Espíritu Santo, Señor, dador de vida, que procede del Padre y del Hijo,\*

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.

#### **CREDO DE NICE**

quien con el Padre y el Hijo es adorado y glorificado, quien ha hablado por medio de los profetas.

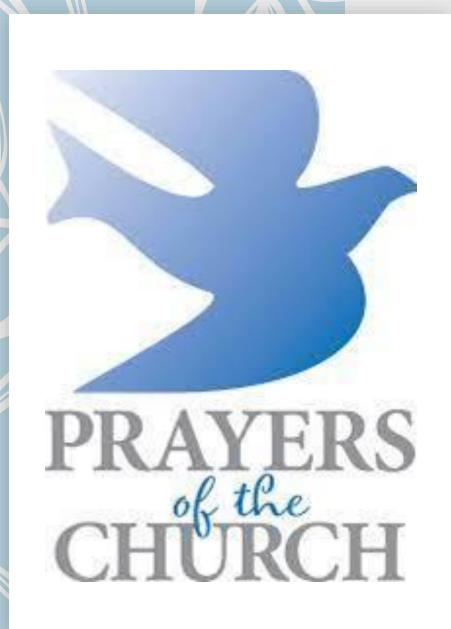
Creemos en una santa iglesia católica y apostólica.

Reconocemos un bautismo para el perdón de los pecados.

We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

#### **CREDO DE NICE**

Esperamos la resurrección de los muertos y la vida del mundo venidero. Amén.



After each petition of the prayer:

A: Come down, come in,

### C: Come among us and make us whole.

#### SHARING OF THE PEACE COMPARTIENDO LA PAZ

A time to greet each other with God's peace.



P: The peace of Christ be with you always. C: And also with you.

#### WE GATHER THE OFFERING

Your offering contribution enables us to support and continue the many ministries of Amazing Grace. Thank you for your offering of worship.



# You can also give your offering digitally through Zelle: digital\_giving@tisgrace.org

#### **OFFERING PRAYER**

#### A: Lord Jesus,

C: As the time of your coming draws near, we rejoice! In gratitude for the joy and the light you have brought into our lives, we respond by bringing you this offering. We pray that it may be used to bring the joyous message of the Savior's birth, to people in need of light in their darkness and hope in their despair. Send us as you sent John, to herald your coming into our world. AMEN.

#### OFFERING SPECIAL I Heard The Church Bells Ring On Christmas Day

I heard the bells on Christmas Day

Their old familiar carols play

And wild and sweet, the words repeat

Of peace on earth, goodwill to men

Till ringing, singing on it's way

The world revolved from night to day

A voice, a chime, a chant sublime

Of name on earth anodwill to man

OFFERING SPECIAL I Heard The Church Bells Ring On Christmas Day

And in despair I bowed my head

There is no peace on earth, I said

For hate is strong and mocks the song

Of peace on earth, goodwill to men

Then pealed the bells more loud and deep

Oh God's not dead and not asleep

The Wrong shall fail, the Right prevail

With passes on earth acadwill to man

#### OFFERING SPECIAL I Heard The Church Bells Ring On Christmas Day

Oh peace on earth, good will to men Oh peace on earth, good will to men Oh peace on earth, good will to men Oh peace on earth, good will to men

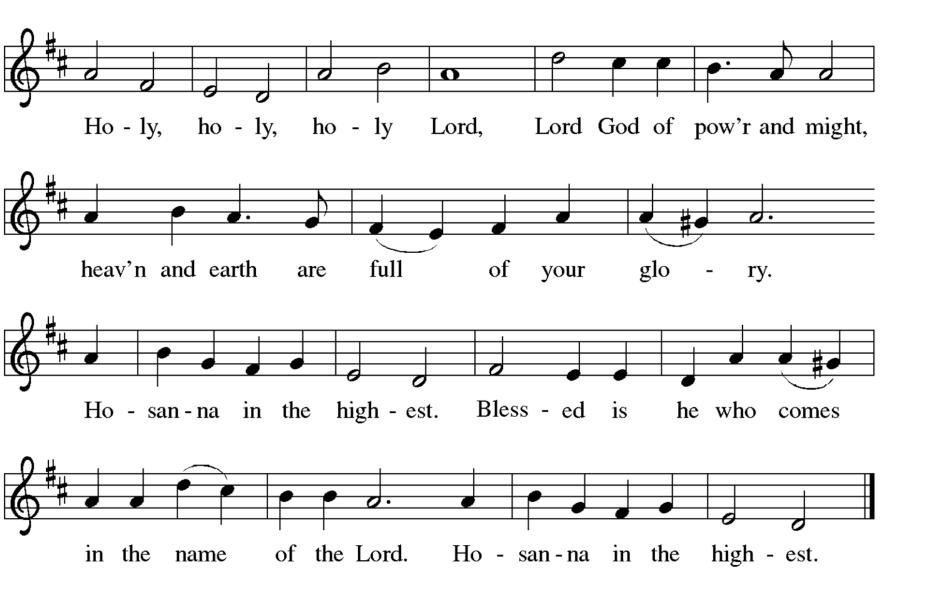
#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

- P: The Lord be with you.
- C: And also with you.
- P: Lift up your hearts.
- C: We lift them to the Lord.
- P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
- C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, O Lord our God, creator and ruler of the universe. You are good news to the oppressed, healing for the brokenhearted, freedom to the captive, and comfort for those who mourn. Now the time has come at last to proclaim the year of your favor. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with choirs of angels with prophets, apostles, and with all the faithful of every time and place who forever sing to the glory of your name:

#### HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



#### **EUCHARIST PRAYER**

P: You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord. Jesus Christ is the true light that the prophets foretold. He has come into the world to enlighten everyone so that we might testify to your saving power and love.

P: Remembering your gracious acts in Jesus Christ, we take from your creation this bread and this wine and joyfully celebrate his dying and rising, as we await the day of his coming. With thanksgiving, we offer our very selves to you to be a living and holy sacrifice, dedicated to your service. Great is the mystery of faith:

C: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

#### EUCHARIST

P: In the night in which he was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks; broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: "Take and eat; this is my body, given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

P: Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood, shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

#### **EUCHARIST PRAYER**

P: Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine, that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ. By your Spirit, unite us with Christ and with your church in all the world. Teach us to rejoice and give thanks always, to pray without ceasing, to follow the Spirit, heed the prophets, and hold fast to what is good, so that we may be holy and whole at the coming of our Lord.

P: Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever.

#### C: AMEN

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

A: In the language of your heart, let us pray the prayer that Jesus taught us:

C: Our father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.

#### PADRE NUESTRO

A: En el idioma de tu corazón, r ezamos
la oración que Jesús
nos enseñó:

C: Padre nuestro, que estás en los cielos, santificado sea tu nombre; Venga a nos tu reino; hágase tu voluntad, así en la tierra como en el cielo;

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

Give us this day **C**: 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.

#### PADRE NUESTRO

El pan nuestro de **C**: cada día, dánoslo hoy; y perdónanos nuestras deudas así como nosotros perdonamos a nuestros deudores; y no no dejes caer en la tentación; mas líbranos del mal.

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

C: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. AMEN.

#### PADRE NUESTRO

C: Porque tuyo es el reino, el poder y la gloria, por los siglos de los siglos. Amén.

#### INVITATION TO COMMUNION



P: God sends his Son Jesus, Emmanuel, God with us, to bring light and joy into our dark world. The Lord Jesus is present to us, every time we are gathered at his table. Therefore, come all of you, and find Emmanuel, God with us, in the bread and wine and community, at this table. Come Lord Jesus!

#### C: Glory to you, O Lord!

#### THE MEAL

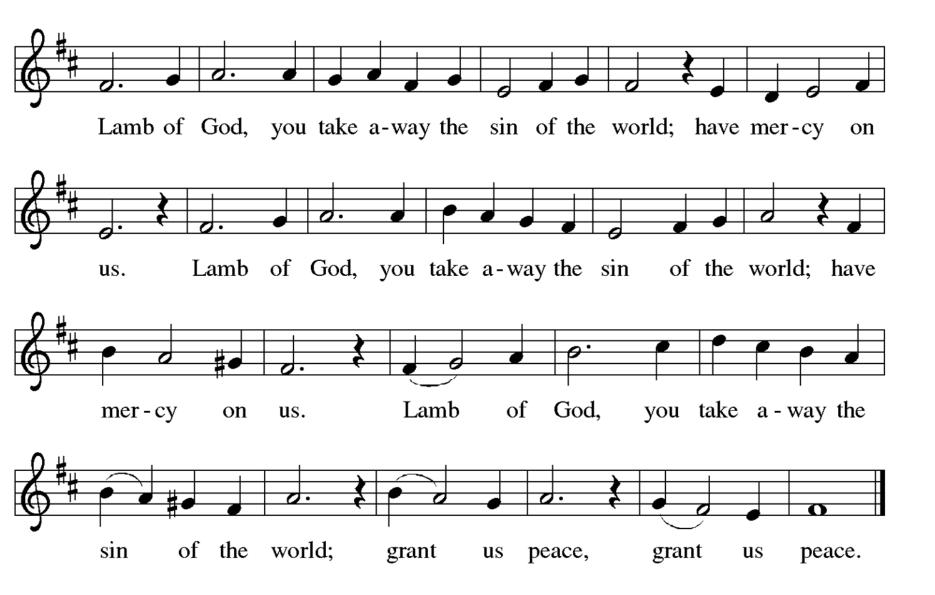


#### (For online viewers)

P: For those of you who have tuned in online: Please take the bread you have prepared. This is the body of Christ, broken for you. Take and eat.

And now the wine or juice. This is the blood of Christ shed for you. Take and drink.

#### LAMB OF GOD



#### THE MEAL



#### **PRAYER OF BLESSING**

P: May the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you always in his Grace.

#### C: AMEN.



#### **POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

P: God of new beginnings,

C: you draw near to us in word and sacrament to strengthen and renew us. Kindle in us the fire of your Spirit; and may your light so shine through us that all may welcome your Son at his coming. We ask this in the name of Jesus, Emmanuel. AMEN

#### **BLESSING AND SENDING**

P: Go now, for you are chosen and sent in the Spirit. Pray at all times, be thankful in all circumstances. Keep what is good, avoid every kind of evil. To all in need bear witness that the time has come when the Sovereign Lord will save his people.

P: And may God who gives peace make you holy in every way; May Christ Jesus clothe you with salvation; And may the Holy Spirit speak through you with the good news of hope.

#### C: AMEN

Refrain

Go tell it on the mountain,

over the hills and ev'rywhere;

go tell it on the mountain

that Jesus Christ is born!

Verse 1

While shepherds kept their watching

o'er silent flocks by night,

behold, throughout the heavens

there shone a holy light.

Refrain

Go tell it on the mountain,

over the hills and ev'rywhere;

go tell it on the mountain

that Jesus Christ is born!

Verse 2

The shepherds feared and trembled when, Io, above the earth rang out the angel chorus

that hailed our Savior's birth.

Refrain

Go tell it on the mountain,

over the hills and ev'rywhere;

go tell it on the mountain

that Jesus Christ is born!

Verse 3

Down in a lonely manger

the humble Christ was born;

and God sent us salvation

that blessed Christmas morn.

Refrain

Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev'rywhere; go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!

Text: African American spiritual, refrain; John W. Work Jr., 1872-1925, stanzas, alt.

#### DISMISSAL

### A: Rejoice! Christ is coming soon!

#### C: Thanks be to God!

