January 7, 2024 First Sunday After Epiphany

Welcome! ¡Bienvenido!

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



Prelude: SONGS OF THANKFULNESS AND PRAISE Arranged by Pam Asberry Pam Asberry, Pianist

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

P: The prophet speaks of the coming light of God, which calls all the people of the earth to come together in shalom. Let us confess the ways in which we have rejected God's vision of wholeness and unity.

—Silence for Reflection—

P: God of light and darkness,

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

C: You have called us to your guiding light as seekers, and yet we confess we are more like Herod. We find our own self-interests more compelling than the basic needs of others for health and safety. We cling to the security of our position, rather than standing up for the rights of the needy and vulnerable. We are complicit in the harming of innocents in order to maintain our privilege or simply because we fear change or loss of privilege and power.

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

C: Forgive us and redirect us from our selfserving instincts. Instead open our hearts to love and generosity towards those in need. Give us a heart for welcoming all people Christ came to save, and not just those who look and think like us. Renew us and make us beacons of your light in the darkness of this world. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

P:God's light is present in this world. Present in the Christ child, born to lead us out of darkness. Present in the star, in all that guides us to love. God's light is in the world, and the darkness did not overcome it. God's grace is in the world, and our mis-steps will not overcome it. We are loved, we are forgiven.

C: Alleluia! Amen.

GATHERING SONGRed Book # 665RISE, SHINE, YOU PEOPLE!

Verse 1

- Rise, shine, you people! Christ the Lord has entered
- our human story; God in him is centered. He comes to us, by death and sin surrounded, with grace unbounded.

GATHERING SONG Red Book # 665 *RISE, SHINE, YOU PEOPLE!*

Verse 2

See how he sends the pow'rs of evil reeling; he brings us freedom, light and life and healing. All men and women, who by guilt are driven, now are forgiven.

GATHERING SONGRed Book # 665RISE, SHINE, YOU PEOPLE!

Verse 3

Come, celebrate; your banners high unfurling, your songs and prayers against the darkness hurling.

- To all the world go out and tell the story
- of Jesus' glory.

GATHERING SONG Red Book # 665 *RISE, SHINE, YOU PEOPLE!*

Verse 4

Tell how the Father sent the Son to save us. Tell of the Son, who life and freedom gave us. Tell how the Spirit calls from ev'ry nation God's new creation.

Text: Ronald A. Klug, b. 1939, alt. Text © 1974 Augsburg Publishing House, admin. Augsburg Fortress.

GREETING

A: Days are getting darker. C: Who will come to give us light?

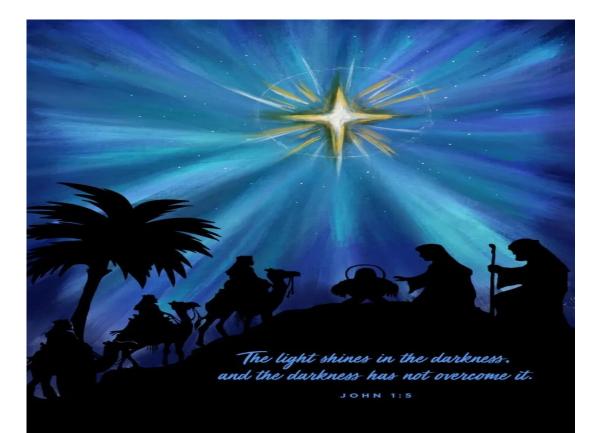
A: The voice of the prophet cries in the wilderness of our lives!

C: Is this prophet the One who brings the light?

GREETING

A: This prophet brings witness to the Light which is coming for all people.

C: Praise be to God who has heard our cries. AMEN.



Verse 2

They looked up and saw a star shining in the east beyond them far; and to the earth it gave great light, and so it continued both day and night.

Refrain

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the King of Israel.

Verse 3

And by the light of that same star three wise men came from country far; to seek for a king was their intent, and to follow the star wherever it went.

Refrain

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the King of Israel.

Verse 4

This star drew near to the northwest, o'er Bethlehem it took its rest; and there it did both stop and stay right over the place where Jesus lay.

Refrain

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the King of Israel.

Verse 5

Then entered in those wise men three, full rev'rently upon their knee, and offered there in his presence their gold, and myrrh, and frankincense.

Refrain

Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel! Born is the King of Israel.

Text: English traditional

PRAYER OF THE DAY

A: Light of Christ,

C: Awaken us this hour to the glory of your presence in our midst. Shine among us in such a way that the darkness without and within may be pushed back, so that we might truly see what is really real. Help us to recognize our sin. Enable us to behold the world as you created it to be, as you created us to be. Empower us to move from darkness to light, from sin to new life.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

C: May your light within us shine through as we worship this day and as we move out into the world. We pray in the name of the Word made flesh, the light which is the light of all people, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

¹Arise, shine; for your light has come, and the glory of the LORD has risen upon you. ²For darkness shall cover the earth, and thick darkness the peoples; but the LORD will arise upon you, and his glory will appear over you.

PRIMERA LECTURA: Isaias 60:1-6

Levántate, Jerusalén, envuelta en resplandor, porque ha llegado tu luz y la gloria del Señor brilla sobre ti.²La oscuridad cubre la tierra, la noche envuelve a las naciones, pero el Señor brillará sobre ti y sobre ti aparecerá su gloria.

³Nations shall come to your light, and kings to the brightness of your dawn. ⁴Lift up your eyes and look around; they all gather together, they come to you; your sons shall come from far away, and your daughters shall be carried on their

PRIMERA LECTURA: Isaias 60:1-6

³ Las naciones vendrán hacia tu luz, los reyes vendrán hacia el resplandor de tu amanecer.⁴ Levanta los ojos, y mira a tu alrededor: todos se reúnen y vienen hacia ti. Tus hijos vendrán desde lejos; tus hijas serán traídas en brazos.

⁵Then you shall see and be radiant; your heart shall thrill and rejoice, because the abundance of the sea shall be brought to you, the wealth of the nations shall come to you.

PRIMERA LECTURA: Isaias 60:1-6

⁵Tú, al verlos, estarás radiante de alegría, tu corazón se llenará de gozo; te traerán los tesoros de los países del mar, te entregarán las riquezas de las naciones.

⁶A multitude of camels shall cover you, the young camels of Midian and Ephah; all those from Sheba shall come. They shall bring gold and frankincense, and shall proclaim the praise of the LORD.

PRIMERA LECTURA: Isaias 60:1-6

⁶ Te verás cubierta de caravanas de camellos que vienen de Madián y de Efá; vendrán todos los de Sabá, cargados de oro y de incienso, y proclamarán las acciones gloriosas del Señor.

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

PSALM: Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14 We will speak the Psalm responsively. Please speak the verses in bold print.

¹Give the king your justice, O God, and your righteousness to the king's son; ²that he may rule your people righteously and the poor with justice;

³that the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, and the hills, in righteousness.

⁴Let him defend the needy among the people, rescue the poor, and crush the oppressor.

PSALM: Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14 We will speak the Psalm responsively. Please speak the verses in bold print.

⁵May he live as long as the sun and moon endure, from one generation to another.

⁶Let him come down like rain upon the mown field, like showers that water the earth.

⁷In his time may the righteous flourish; and let there be an abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

¹⁰May the kings of Tarshish and of the isles pay tribute, and the kings of Sheba and Seba offer gifts.

PSALM: Psalm 72:1-7, 10-14 We will speak the Psalm responsively. Please speak the verses in bold print.

¹¹May all kings bow down before him, and all the nations do him service.

¹²For the king delivers the poor who cry out in distress, the oppressed, and those who have no helper.

¹³He has compassion on the lowly and poor, and preserves the lives of the needy.

¹⁴From oppression and violence he redeems their lives, and precious is their blood in his sight.

¹This is the reason that I Paul am a prisoner for Christ Jesus for the sake of you Gentiles— ²for surely you have already heard of the commission of God's grace that was given me for you,

SEGUNDA LECTURA Efesios 3:1-12

Por esta razón yo, Pablo, estoy preso por causa de Cristo Jesús para bien de ustedes, los que no son judíos.² Pues ya sin duda sabrán que Dios me ha encargado anunciar a ustedes lo que él, en su bondad, ha dispuesto.

³and how the mystery was made known to me by revelation, as I wrote above in a few words, ⁴a reading of which will enable you to perceive my understanding of the mystery of Christ.

SEGUNDA LECTURA Efesios 3:1-12

³ Por revelación he conocido el designio secreto de Dios, como ya les escribí brevemente. ⁴ Al leerlo, pueden darse cuenta de que conozco este designio secreto realizado en Cristo,

⁵In former generations this mystery was not made known to humankind, as it has now been revealed to his holy apostles and prophets by the Spirit:

SEGUNDA LECTURA Efesios 3:1-12

⁵ que no se dio a conocer a nadie en otros tiempos, pero que ahora Dios ha revelado a sus santos apóstoles y profetas por medio de su Espíritu.

⁶that is, the Gentiles have become fellow heirs, members of the same body, and sharers in the promise in Christ Jesus through the gospel.

SEGUNDA LECTURA Efesios 3:1-12

⁶ El designio secreto es éste: que por el evangelio Dios llama a todas las naciones a participar, en Cristo Jesús, de la misma herencia, del mismo cuerpo y de la misma promesa que el pueblo de Israel.

⁷Of this gospel I have become a servant according to the gift of God's grace that was given me by the working of his power. ⁸Although I am the very least of all the saints, this grace was given to me to bring to the Gentiles the news of the boundless riches of Christ,

SEGUNDA LECTURA Efesios 3:1-12

⁷ Y yo he sido puesto al servicio de este mensaje por la bondad y la misericordia que Dios ha tenido conmigo, quien ha mostrado así su gran poder.⁸ Yo soy menos que el más pequeño de todos los que pertenecen al pueblo santo; pero él me ha concedido este privilegio de anunciar a los no judíos la buena noticia de las incontables riquezas de Cristo.

⁹and to make everyone see what is the plan of the mystery hidden for ages in God who created all things; ¹⁰so that through the church the wisdom of God in its rich variety might now be made known to the rulers and authorities in the heavenly places.

SEGUNDA LECTURA Efesios 3:1-12

⁹Y me ha encargado hacerles ver a todos cuál es la realización de ese designio que Dios, creador de todas las cosas, había mantenido secreto desde la eternidad. ¹⁰ De esta manera ahora, por medio de la iglesia, todos los poderes y autoridades en el cielo podrán conocer la sabiduría de Dios, que se muestra en tan variadas formas.

¹¹This was in accordance with the eternal purpose that he has carried out in Christ Jesus our Lord, ¹²in whom we have access to God in boldness and confidence through faith in him.

SEGUNDA LECTURA Efesios 3:1-12

¹¹ Dios hizo esto de acuerdo con el plan eterno que llevó a cabo en Cristo Jesús nuestro Señor. ¹² Y en Cristo tenemos libertad para acercarnos a Dios, con la confianza que nos da nuestra fe en él.

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

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

GOSPEL VERSE







P: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew, in the second chapter.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!

¹In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, ²asking, "Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage."

EL EVANGELIO Mateo 2:1-12

Jesús nació en Belén, un pueblo de la región de Judea, en el tiempo en que Herodes era rey del país. Llegaron por entonces a Jerusalén unos sabios del Oriente que se dedicaban al estudio de las estrellas, ² y preguntaron:-¿Dónde está el rey de los judíos que ha nacido? Pues vimos salir su estrella y hemos venido a adorarlo.

³When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; ⁴and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born.

EL EVANGELIO Mateo 2:1-12

³El rey Herodes se inquietó mucho al oír esto, y lo mismo les pasó a todos los habitantes de Jerusalén. ⁴ Mandó el rey llamar a todos los jefes de los sacerdotes y a los maestros de la ley, y les preguntó dónde había de nacer el Mesías

⁵They told him, "In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet: ⁶'And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah; for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.'"

EL EVANGELIO Mateo 2:1-12

⁵ Ellos le dijeron:- En Belén de Judea; porque así lo escribió el profeta: ⁶ "En cuanto a ti, Belén, de la tierra de Judá, no eres la más pequeña entre las principales ciudades de esa tierra; porque de ti saldrá un gobernante que guiará a mi pueblo Israel."

⁷Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. ⁸Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, "Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage."

EL EVANGELIO Mateo 2:1-12

⁷ Entonces Herodes Ilamó en secreto a los sabios, y se informó por ellos del tiempo exacto en que había aparecido la estrella.⁸ Luego los mandó a Belén, y les dijo: —Vayan allá, y averigüen todo lo que puedan acerca de ese niño; y cuando lo encuentren, avísenme, para que yo también vaya a rendirle homenaje.

GOSPEL READING Matthew 2:1-12

⁹When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. ¹⁰When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy.

EL EVANGELIO Mateo 2:1-12

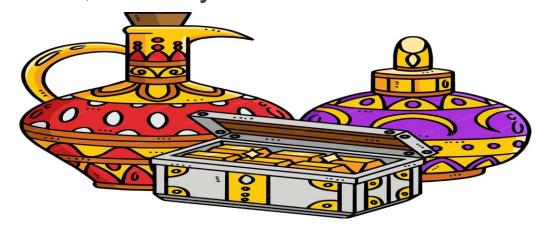
⁹Con estas indicaciones del rey, los sabios se fueron. Y la estrella que habían visto salir iba delante de ellos, hasta que por fin se detuvo sobre el lugar donde estaba el niño.¹⁰ Cuando los sabios vieron la estrella, se alegraron mucho.

GOSPEL READING Matthew 2:1-12

¹¹On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh.

EL EVANGELIO Mateo 2:1-12

¹¹ Luego entraron en la casa, y vieron al niño con María, su madre; y arrodillándose le rindieron homenaje. Abrieron sus cofres y le ofrecieron oro, incienso y mirra.



GOSPEL READING Matthew 2:1-12

¹²And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

EL EVANGELIO Mateo 2:1-12

¹² Después, advertidos en sueños de que no debían volver a donde estaba Herodes, regresaron a su tierra por otro camino.

- P: The Gospel of the Lord,
- C: Praise to you, O Christ!

Children's Message

Pastor Mike





"We Are The Gentiles"

Pastor Mike



HYMN OF THE DAYRed Book # 815I Want To Walk As a Child of the Light

Verse 1

- I want to walk as a child of the light.
- I want to follow Jesus.
- God set the stars to give light to the world.
- The star of my life is Jesus.

Refrain

- In him there is no darkness at all.
- The night and the day are both alike.
- The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
- Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

HYMN OF THE DAYRed Book # 815I Want To Walk As a Child of the Light

Verse 2

- I want to see the brightness of God.
- I want to look at Jesus.
- Clear Sun of righteousness, shine on my path,
- and show me the way to the Father. Refrain
- In him there is no darkness at all.
- The night and the day are both alike.
- The Lamb is the light of the city of God.
- Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

HYMN OF THE DAYRed Book # 815I Want To Walk As a Child of the Light

Verse 3

I'm looking for the coming of Christ.

I want to be with Jesus.

When we have run with patience the race,

we shall know the joy of Jesus.

Refrain

In him there is no darkness at all.

The night and the day are both alike.

The Lamb is the light of the city of God. Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

Text: Kathleen Thomerson, b. 1934 Text © 1970, 1975 Celebration.

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. **CREDO DE NICE**

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

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*

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.

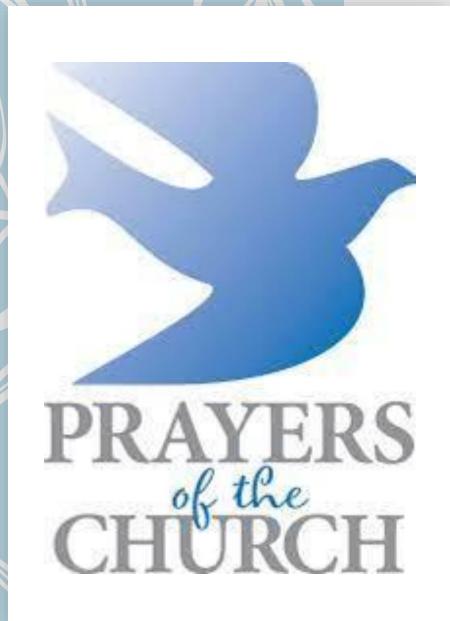
Creemos en una santa iglesia católica y apostólica.

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: Let the light of Christ, C: Shine on all people!

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.



****SPECIAL MUSIC****

BETHLEHEM CALLS

NEWSONG

You can also give your offering digitally through Zelle: digital_giving@tisgrace.org

OFFERING PRAYER

A: Thank you, Lord,

C: for shining on us with the brightness of your presence. Lead us always to worship Christ our king, and to reflect your light to others by our generous support of your ministry and by our lives of loving service, in the name of the Savior who came for all. Amen.

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.

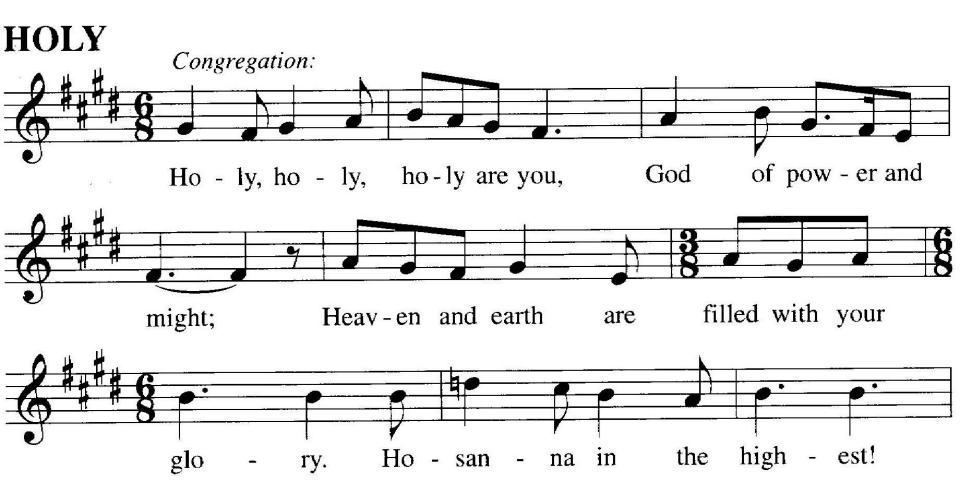
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: We give you thanks, O God, for making your love evident since the very beginning of time when you spoke the word which replaced the darkness of chaos with life-giving light. A light which has nurtured generations of people, and plants and creatures, great and small. A light which also revealed the sin and waywardness caused by human corruption and evil. And so, you spoke the Word which would once and for all dispel the darkness of chaotic lives.

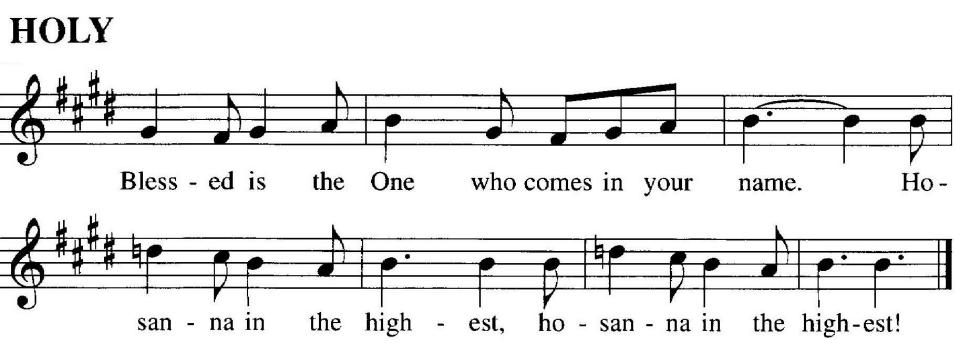
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

P: Through your love for the world the Word became flesh and lived among us full of grace and truth. The angels caroled glory to you in the highest heavens and peace to all people on earth, and we join with them and with all people to praise your holy name:

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



EUCHARIST

P: Holy God, as the travelers with their treasures were overwhelmed with joy on finding Jesus, so we also are overwhelmed on finding out the depth of his love for us. For Jesus showed just how beloved we are to him, by loving us and giving himself for us.

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: Send the power of your Holy Spirit upon these gifts of bread and wine, O God, that we may experience the presence of the Word-made-flesh –Jesus Christ. Breathe your Spirit in us that we may be one body with him—living out his ministry in the world today and every day. This we pray in Jesus' name.

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

C: 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.

PADRE NUESTRO

C: El pan nuestro cada día, de dánoslo hoy; y perdónanos nuestras deudas así como nosotros perdonamos a nuestros deudores; y no nos 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: The child Savior who was born for all, also welcomes all to his table of grace.

C: Glory to you, O Lord!



THE MEAL

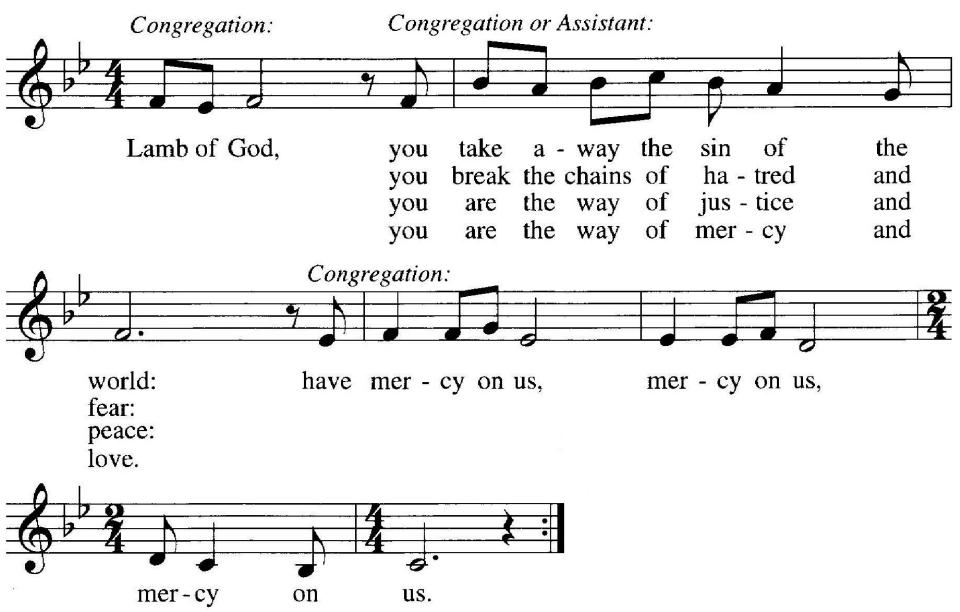


(For online viewers)

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.

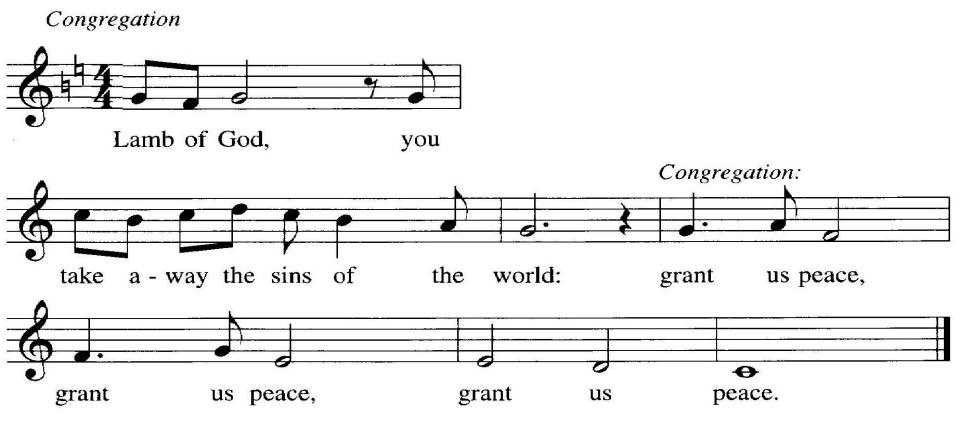
LAMB OF GOD

LAMB OF GOD



LAMB OF GOD

Final Stanza



THE MEAL



POST COMMUNION PRAYER

P: God our redeemer,

C: you have fed us at this table with gifts of grace, truth, and life. As you have gathered us in joy, send us forth as messengers of your peace. Make us shine with the good news of your glory, born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord.

Amen.

BENEDICTION AND SENDING

P: Go now, seek out the Christ wherever he may be found, and share the good news with all who bear him no ill will. Bring light to those in thick darkness, a voice to those no one speaks for, and hope to those no one cares for.

P: And may God make you a sharer in the promised light. May Christ Jesus fill you with his sense of what is right. And may the Holy Spirit be to you like rain that gives life to the fertile earth.

C: Amen.

SENDING SONGRed Book # 275Angels From The Realms of Glory

Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth; once you sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth: Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.

1

SENDING SONGRed Book # 275Angels From The Realms of Glory

Shepherds, in the fields abiding, watching o'er your flocks by night, God with us is now residing, yonder shines the infant light.
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king. **SENDING SONG** Red Book # 275 *Angels From The Realms of Glory*

 Sages, leave your contemplations, brighter visions beam afar; seek the great desire of nations, you have seen his natal star.
 Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king. SENDING SONGRed Book # 275Angels From The Realms of Glory

4 All creation, join in praising God, the Father, Spirit, Son, evermore your voices raising to the eternal Three in One. Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the newborn king.

Text: James Montgomery, 1771-1854, alt., sts. 1-3; Salisbury Hymn Book, 1857, st. 4

DISMISSAL

A: Go in peace, shine Christ's Light on others.

C: Thanks be to God!

