

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Prelude

Opening Hymn

Praise to the living God! (verses 1, 2)

Hymnal #372

Praise to the living God! All praised be his Name
who was, and is, and is to be for ay the same.
The one eternal God ere aught that now appears:
the first, the last, beyond all thought his timeless years!

Formless, all lovely forms declare his loveliness;
holy, no holiness of earth can his express.
Lo, he is Lord of all. Creation speaks his praise,
and everywhere above, below, his will obeys.

Medieval Jewish liturgy; tr. Max Landsberg (1845-1928)
and Newton M. Mann (1836-1926)

Acclamation

pg. 355 in Book of Common Prayer

Celebrant Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.
People ***And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.***

Collect for Purity

Gloria

Glory to God in the highest, and peace to his people on earth. Lord God, heavenly King, almighty God and Father, we worship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for your glory. Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father, Lord God, Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world: have mercy on us; you are seated at the right hand of the Father: receive our prayer. For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord, you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Collect of the Day

Almighty and everlasting God, in Christ you have revealed your glory among the nations: Preserve the works of your mercy, that your Church throughout the world may persevere with steadfast faith in the confession of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. ***Amen.***

The Lessons

The First Reading: *Genesis 32:22-31*

²²[Jacob] got up [at night] and took his two wives, his two maids, and his eleven children, and crossed the ford of the Jabbok.²³He took them and sent them across the stream, and likewise everything that he had. ²⁴Jacob was left alone; and a man wrestled with him until daybreak. ²⁵When the man saw that he did not prevail against Jacob, he struck him on the hip socket; and Jacob's hip was put out of joint as he wrestled with him. ²⁶Then he said, "Let me go, for the day is breaking." But Jacob said, "I will not let you go, unless you bless me." ²⁷So he said to him, "What is your name?" And he said, "Jacob." ²⁸Then the man said, "You shall no longer be called Jacob, but Israel, for you have striven with God and with humans, and have prevailed." ²⁹Then Jacob asked him, "Please tell me your name." But he said, "Why is it that you ask my name?" And there he blessed him. ³⁰So Jacob called the place Peniel, saying, "For I have seen God face to face, and yet my life is preserved." ³¹The sun rose upon him as he passed Peniel, limping because of his hip.

Psalm 121

¹*I lift up my eyes to the hills; *
from where is my help to come?*
²*My help comes from the LORD, *
the maker of heaven and earth.*
³*He will not let your foot be moved *
and he who watches over you will not fall asleep.*
⁴*Behold, he who keeps watch over Israel *
shall neither slumber nor sleep;*
⁵*The LORD himself watches over you; *
the LORD is your shade at your right hand,*
⁶*So that the sun shall not strike you by day, *
nor the moon by night.*
⁷*The LORD shall preserve you from all evil; *
it is he who shall keep you safe.*
⁸*The LORD shall watch over your going out and your coming in, *
from this time forth for evermore.*

The Second Reading: 2 Timothy 3:14—4:5

¹⁴As for you, continue in what you have learned and firmly believed, knowing from whom you learned it, ¹⁵and how from childhood you have known the sacred writings that are able to instruct you for salvation through faith in Christ Jesus. ¹⁶All scripture is inspired by God and is useful for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, ¹⁷so that everyone who belongs to God may be proficient, equipped for every good work.

^{4:1}In the presence of God and of Christ Jesus, who is to judge the living and the dead, and in view of his appearing and his kingdom, I solemnly urge you: ²proclaim the message; be persistent whether the time is favorable or unfavorable; convince, rebuke, and encourage, with the utmost patience in teaching. ³For the time is coming when people will not put up with sound doctrine, but having itching ears, they will accumulate for themselves teachers to suit their own desires, ⁴and will turn away from listening to the truth and wander away to myths. ⁵As for you, always be sober, endure suffering, do the work of an evangelist, carry out your ministry fully.

The Gospel – Luke 18:1-8

¹Jesus told [the disciples] a parable about their need to pray always and not to lose heart. ²He said, “In a certain city there was a judge who neither feared God nor had respect for people. ³In that city there was a widow who kept coming to him and saying, ‘Grant me justice against my opponent.’ ⁴For a while he refused; but later he said to himself, ‘Though I have no fear of God and no respect for anyone, ⁵yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will grant her justice, so that she may not wear me out by continually coming.’” ⁶And the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says. ⁷And will not God grant justice to his chosen ones who cry to him day and night? Will he delay long in helping them? ⁸I tell you, he will quickly grant justice to them. And yet, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on earth?”

The Sermon

Nicene Creed

Prayers of the People - All remain standing.

Presider or deacon

Blessed God, whose love calls the whole creation into covenant with you, and who puts in our hand's responsibility for the care of the earth and its creatures: we pray for all to whom you have given life and being, saying, “Lord have mercy.”

Confession of Sin

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 Peace

HOLY COMMUNION

Offertory Hymn

O Christ, the Word incarnate

Hymnal #632

O Christ, the Word Incarnate, O Wisdom from on high,
O Truth, unchanged, unchanging, O Light of our dark sky;
we praise thee for the radiance that from the scripture's page,
a lantern to our footsteps, shines on from age to age.

The Church from our dear Master received the word divine,
and still that light is lifted o'er all the earth to shine.
It is the chart and compass that o'er life's surging sea,
mid mists and rocks and quicksands, still guides, O Christ, to thee.

O make thy Church, dear Savior, a lamp of purest gold,
to bear before the nations thy true light as of old;
O teach thy wandering pilgrims by this their path to trace,
till, clouds and darkness ended, they see thee face to face.

William Walsham How (1823-1897)

Offertory

Celebrant All things come of thee, O Lord.
People **And of thine own have we given thee**

The Great Thanksgiving

Eucharistic Prayer A

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Lift up your hearts.

People **We lift them 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. . .
. . . to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Sanctus *Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.*

Celebrant Holy and gracious Father. . .
. . . Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People ***Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.***

Celebrant We celebrate the memorial of our redemption. . .
. . . Almighty Father, now and for ever. **AMEN.**

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People ***Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.***

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

and may add Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

Communion Music

Book of books, our people's strength

Hymnal #631

Book of books, our people's strength, statesman's, teacher's, hero's treasure,
bringing freedom, spreading truth, shedding light that none can measure:
wisdom comes to those who know thee, all the best we have we owe thee.

Thank we those who toiled in thought, many diverse scrolls completing,
poets, prophets, scholars, saints, each a word from God repeating;
till they came, who told the story of the Word, and showed his glory.

Praise we God, who hath inspired those whose wisdom still directs us;
praise him for the Word made flesh, for the Spirit which protects us.
Light of knowledge, ever burning, shed on us thy deathless learning.

Percy Dearmer (1867-1936)

Sending Forth

Postcommunion Prayer

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing

Closing Hymn

Spread o spread, thou mighty word (verses 1, 2)

Hymnal #530

Spread, O spread, thou mighty word, spread the kingdom of the Lord,
that to earth's remotest bound all may heed the joyful sound;

word of how the Father's will made the world, and keeps it, still;
how his only Son he gave, earth from sin and death to save;

Jonathan Friedrich Bahnmaier (1774-1841); tr. Arthur William Farlander (1898-1952)
and Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944), alt. St. 4, F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984)

Dismissal

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People ***Thanks be to God.***

Postlude



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ST. THOMAS THE APOSTLE EPISCOPAL CHURCH
12251 Antioch Rd, Overland Park, KS 66213
913-451-0512
Website: www.stthomasop.org
Email: stthomas@stthomasop.org