

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Prelude

Candlelighting (Lucernaria)

- V. Come and save us, O Lord God of hosts.
R. **Come and save us, O Lord God of hosts.**
V. Show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved:
R. **O Lord God of hosts.**
V. Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit.
R. **Come and save us, O Lord God of hosts.**
V. Show us your mercy, O Lord:
R. **And grant us your salvation.**

Opening Hymn

Hark! The glad sound! (verses 1, 4)

Hymnal #72

Hark! The glad sound! The Savior comes, the Savior promised long;
Let every heart prepare a throne, and every voice a song.

Our glad hosannas, Prince of Peace, thy welcome shall proclaim;
and heaven's eternal arches ring with thy beloved Name.

Philip Dodderidge (1702-1751)

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

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Lessons

The First Reading: Isaiah 7:10-16

¹⁰Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, saying, ¹¹Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven. ¹²But Ahaz said, I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test. ¹³Then Isaiah said: "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary mortals, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Look, the young woman is with child and shall bear a son, and shall name him Immanuel. ¹⁵He shall eat curds and honey by the time he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. ¹⁶For before the child knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land before whose two kings you are in dread will be deserted."

Psalm 80:1-7, 16-18

¹**Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; *
shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.**

²**In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, *
stir up your strength and come to help us.**

³**Restore us, O God of hosts; * show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

⁴**O LORD God of hosts, * how long will you be angered despite the prayers of your people?**

⁵**You have fed them with the bread of tears; * you have given them bowls of tears to drink.**

⁶**You have made us the derision of our neighbors, * and our enemies laugh us to scorn.**

⁷**Restore us, O God of hosts; * show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

¹⁶**Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, * the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.**

¹⁷**And so will we never turn away from you; * give us life, that we may call upon your Name.**

¹⁸**Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; * show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.**

The Second Reading: Romans 1:1-7

¹Paul, a servant of Jesus Christ, called to be an apostle, set apart for the gospel of God, ²which he promised beforehand through his prophets in the holy scriptures, ³the gospel concerning his Son, who was descended from David according to the flesh ⁴and was declared to be Son of God with power according to the spirit of holiness by resurrection from the dead, Jesus Christ our Lord, ⁵through whom we have received grace and apostleship to bring about the obedience of faith among all the Gentiles for the sake of his name, ⁶including yourselves who are called to belong to Jesus Christ, ⁷To all God's beloved in Rome, who are called to be saints: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

The Gospel – Matthew 1:18-25

¹⁸Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. ¹⁹Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. ²⁰But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. ²¹She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." ²²All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: ²³"Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us."²⁴When Joseph awoke from sleep, he did as the angel of the Lord commanded him; he took her as his wife, ²⁵but had no marital relations with her until she had borne a son; and he named him Jesus.

The Sermon

Nicene Creed

Prayers of the People - All remain standing.

Presider or deacon

Let us pray for all our needs in this Holy Season, saying, **Hear us Lord!**

. . . Hear us as we remember those who have died in the peace of Christ, both those who have confessed the faith and those whose faith is known to you alone, and grant us with them a share in your eternal kingdom.

All: 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 Music

Blest be the King whose coming

Hymnal #74

Blest be the King whose coming is in the name of God!
For him let doors be opened, no hearts against him barred!
Not robed in royal splendor, in power and pomp, comes he;
but clad as are the poorest, such his humility!

Blest be the King whose coming is in the name of God!
By those who truly listen his voice is truly heard;
pity the proud and haughty, who have not learned to heed
the Christ who is the Promise, who has atonement made.

Blest be the King whose coming is in the name of God!
He only to the humble reveals the face of God.
All power is his, all glory! All things are in his hand,
all ages and all peoples, till time itself shall end!

Blest be the King whose coming is in the name of God!
He offers to the burdened the rest and grace they need.
Gentle is he and humble! And light his yoke shall be,
for he would have us bear it so he can make us free!

Federico J. Pagura (b. 1923); tr. Fred Pratt Green (1903-2000), alt.

Offertory

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

The Great Thanksgiving

The Great Thanksgiving - Eucharistic Prayer B

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 We give thanks to you, O God . . .
. . . Therefore, according to his command, O Father,
We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;
And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving . . .
. . . 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.**
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

Let all mortal flesh keep silence

Hymnal #324

Let all mortal flesh keep silence, and with fear and trembling stand;
ponder nothing earthly-minded, for with blessing in his hand
Christ our God to earth descendeth, our full homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary, as of old on earth he stood,
Lord of lords in human vesture, in the Body and the Blood
he will give to all the faithful his own self for heavenly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven spreads its vanguard on the way,
as the Light of Light descendeth from the realms of endless day,
that the powers of hell may vanish as the darkness clears away.

At his feet the six-winged seraph; cherubim with sleepless eye
veil their faces to the Presence, as with ceaseless voice they cry,
'Alleluia, alleluia! Alleluia, Lord Most High!'

Liturgy of St. James; para. Gerard Moultrie (1829-1885)

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

The King shall come (verses 1, 5)

Hymnal #73

The King shall come when morning dawns and light triumphant breaks;
when beauty gilds the eastern hills and life to joy awakes.

The King shall come when morning dawns and light and beauty brings:
Hail, Christ the Lord! Thy people pray, come quickly, King of kings.

Greek; tr. John Brownlie (1859-1925), alt.

Dismissal

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People ***Thanks be to God.***

Postlude

Good Christian friends, rejoice

Hymnal #107

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;
ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
now ye hear of endless bliss; Jesus Christ was born for this!
He hath opened heaven's door, and we are blest for evermore.
Christ was born for this!

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
now ye need not fear the grave: Jesus Christ was born to save!
Calls you one and calls you all to gain his everlasting hall.
Christ was born to save!

John Mason Neale (1818-1866)

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