

LITURGY OF THE WORD

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**Prelude**

**Opening Hymn**

*We Gather Together*

Hymnal #433

We gather together to ask the Lord's blessing;  
he chastens and hastens his will to make known;  
the wicked oppressing now cease from distressing:  
sing praises to his Name; he forgets not his own.

Beside us to guide us, our God with us joining,  
ordaining, maintaining his kingdom divine;  
so from the beginning the fight we were winning:  
thou, Lord, wast at our side: all glory be thine!

We all do extol thee, thou leader triumphant,  
and pray that thou still our defender wilt be.  
Let thy congregation escape tribulation:  
thy Name be ever praised! O Lord, make us free!

Anon. 1625; tr. Theodore Baker (1851-1934)

**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**

from *The Heritage Mass* by Owen Alstott

*Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace to people of good will. We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you, we give you thanks for your great glory, Lord God, heav'nly King, O God, almighty Father. Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son, Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us; you take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer; you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us. 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**

Blessed Lord, who caused all holy Scriptures to be written for our learning: Grant us so to hear them, read, mark, learn, and inwardly digest them, that we may embrace and ever hold fast the blessed hope of everlasting life, which you have given us in our Savior Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

## The Lessons

### The First Reading: *Judges 4:1-7*

<sup>1</sup>The Israelites again did what was evil in the sight of the LORD, after Ehud died. <sup>2</sup>So the LORD sold them into the hand of King Jabin of Canaan, who reigned in Hazor; the commander of his army was Sisera, who lived in Harosheth-ha-goiim. <sup>3</sup>Then the Israelites cried out to the LORD for help; for he had nine hundred chariots of iron, and had oppressed the Israelites cruelly twenty years.

<sup>4</sup>At that time Deborah, a prophetess, wife of Lappidoth, was judging Israel. <sup>5</sup>She used to sit under the palm of Deborah between Ramah and Bethel in the hill country of Ephraim; and the Israelites came up to her for judgment. <sup>6</sup>She sent and summoned Barak son of Abinoam from Kedesh in Naphtali, and said to him, "The LORD, the God of Israel, commands you, 'Go, take position at Mount Tabor, bringing ten thousand from the tribe of Naphtali and the tribe of Zebulun. <sup>7</sup>I will draw out Sisera, the general of Jabin's army, to meet you by the Wadi Kishon with his chariots and his troops; and I will give him into your hand.'"

### Psalm: *Psalm 123*

<sup>1</sup>*To you I lift up my eyes, \**

*to you enthroned in the heavens.*

<sup>2</sup>*As the eyes of servants look to the hand of their masters, \**

*and the eyes of a maid to the hand of her mistress,*

<sup>3</sup>*So our eyes look to the LORD our God, \**

*until he show us his mercy.*

<sup>4</sup>*Have mercy upon us, O LORD, have mercy, \**

*for we have had more than enough of contempt,*

<sup>5</sup>*Too much of the scorn of the indolent rich, \**

*and of the derision of the proud.*

### The Second Reading: *1 Thessalonians 5:1-11*

<sup>1</sup>Now concerning the times and the seasons, brothers and sisters, you do not need to have anything written to you. <sup>2</sup>For you yourselves know very well that the day of the Lord will come like a thief in the night. <sup>3</sup>When they say, "There is peace and security," then sudden destruction will come upon them, as labor pains come upon a pregnant woman, and there will be no escape! <sup>4</sup>But you, beloved, are not in darkness, for that day to surprise you like a thief; <sup>5</sup>for you are all children of light and children of the day; we are not of the night or of darkness. <sup>6</sup>So then let us not fall asleep as others do, but let us keep awake and be sober; <sup>7</sup>for those who sleep sleep at night, and those who are drunk get drunk at night. <sup>8</sup>But since we belong to the day, let us be sober, and put on the breastplate of faith and love, and for a helmet the hope of salvation. <sup>9</sup>For God has destined us not for wrath but for obtaining salvation through our Lord Jesus Christ, <sup>10</sup>who died for us, so that whether we are awake or asleep we may live with him. <sup>11</sup>Therefore encourage one another and build up each other, as indeed you are doing.

**Alleluia – Celtic Alleluia** - Refrain, Cantor, Refrain

O'Carroll/Walker

### Holy Gospel: *Matthew 25:14-30*

<sup>14</sup>[Jesus said, "The kingdom of heaven will be as when] a man, going on a journey, summoned his slaves and entrusted his property to them; <sup>15</sup>to one he gave five talents, to another two, to another one, to each according to his ability. Then he went away. <sup>16</sup>The one who had received the five talents went off at once and traded with them, and made five more talents. <sup>17</sup>In the same way, the one who had the two talents made two more talents. <sup>18</sup>But the one who had received the one talent went off and dug a hole in the ground and hid his master's money. <sup>19</sup>After a long time the master of those slaves came and settled accounts with them. <sup>20</sup>Then the one who had received the five talents came forward, bringing five more talents, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me five talents; see, I have made five more talents.' <sup>21</sup>His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.' <sup>22</sup>And the one with the two talents also came forward, saying, 'Master, you handed over to me two talents; see, I have made two more talents.' <sup>23</sup>His master said to him, 'Well done, good and trustworthy slave; you have been trustworthy in a few

things, I will put you in charge of many things; enter into the joy of your master.’<sup>24</sup>Then the one who had received the one talent also came forward, saying, ‘Master, I knew that you were a harsh man, reaping where you did not sow, and gathering where you did not scatter seed; <sup>25</sup>so I was afraid, and I went and hid your talent in the ground. Here you have what is yours.’<sup>26</sup>But his master replied, ‘You wicked and lazy slave! You knew, did you, that I reap where I did not sow, and gather where I did not scatter?’<sup>27</sup>Then you ought to have invested my money with the bankers, and on my return I would have received what was my own with interest. <sup>28</sup>So take the talent from him, and give it to the one with the ten talents. <sup>29</sup>For to all those who have, more will be given, and they will have an abundance; but from those who have nothing, even what they have will be taken away. <sup>30</sup>As for this worthless slave, throw him into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth.’”

## **Gospel Response – Celtic Alleluia - Refrain**

### **The Sermon**

### **Nicene Creed**

### **Prayers of the People**

All remain standing. *Presider or deacon*

Let us offer our prayers for the healing touch of Christ among all people, saying  
***Hear our prayer.***

### **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**

Celebrant     The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
People        ***And also with you.***

# HOLY COMMUNION

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## Offertory Music

*All Good Gifts*  
St. Thomas Chancel Choir

Eugene Butler

## The Great Thanksgiving

*Eucharistic Prayer A from Book of Common Prayer*

Representatives of the congregation bring the people's offerings of bread and wine, and money or other gifts, to the deacon or celebrant. The people stand while the offerings are presented and placed on the Altar.

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, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

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:

**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.**

And 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.*

## Fraction Anthem

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.

## Communion Music

### *Blest Are They*

Blest are they, the poor in spirit; theirs is the kingdom of God.  
Blest are they, full of sorrow; they shall be consoled.

Refrain:

**Rejoice, and be glad! Blessed are you, holy are you!  
Rejoice and be glad! Yours is the kingdom of God!**

Blest are they, the lowly ones: they shall inherit the earth.  
Blest are they who hunger and thirst; they shall have their fill.

Blest are they, who show mercy; mercy shall be theirs.  
Blest are they, the pure of heart; they shall see God!

## 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

#### *Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart*

Hymnal #556

Rejoice, ye pure in heart! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!  
Your glorious banner wave on high, the cross of Christ your King.

Rejoice, rejoice, rejoice, give thanks, and sing.

With all the angel choirs, with all the saints of earth,  
pour out the strains of joy and bliss, true rapture, noblest mirth.

Your clear hosannas raise, and alleluias loud;  
while answering echoes upward float, like wreaths of incense cloud.

Yes, on through life's long path, still chanting as ye go,  
from youth to age, by night and day, in gladness and in woe.

Still lift your standard high, still march in firm array,  
as warriors through the darkness toil, till dawns the golden day.

At last the march shall end; the wearied ones shall rest;  
the pilgrims find their Father's house, Jerusalem the blest.

Then on, ye pure in heart! Rejoice, give thanks, and sing!  
Your glorious banner wave on high the cross of Christ your King.

Edward Hayes Plumptre (1821-1891)

## Dismissal

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

## Postlude

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