



St. Mary the Virgin Anglican Catholic Parish

Oakwood Memorial Park • 22607 Lassen Street
Chatsworth, California 91311 (747) 204-6602

<http://www.stmaryanglican.org>

The Right Reverend Anthony F. Rasch, Rector
The Rev. Deacon John Yeager, Assisting

The Fourth Sunday in Advent

24 December 2023

Choral Mass with Litany

Lighting of the Fourth Candle of the Advent Wreath

The Litany or General Supplication

BCP 54

(<http://www.stmaryanglican.org/news/wp-content/uploads/2022/03/Litany.pdf>)

Processional (Asperges)

Hymn 1

Stuttgart

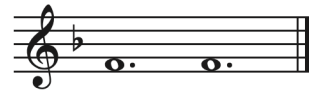
Christian Friedrich Witt, Gotha, 1715



1. Come, thou long - ex - pect-ed Je - sus, Born to set thy peo - ple free;
2. Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, Hope of all the earth thou art;
3. Born thy peo - ple to de - li - ver, Born a child, and yet a king.
4. By thine own e - ter - nal Spi - rit Rule in all our hearts a - lone:



From our fears and sins re - lease us, Let us find our rest in thee.
Dear de - sire of ev - 'ry na - tion, Joy of ev - 'ry long - ing heart.
Born to reign in us for ev - er, Now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.
By thine all - suf - fi - cient me - rit Raise us to thy glo - rious throne.



A - men.

Charles Wesley, 1744

Collect for Purity

BCP 67

Introit

Summary of the Law

69

Kyrie Eleison

Hymn 702

John Merbecke, 1549



Lord, have mer-cy up-on us. Christ, have mer-cy up-on us. Lord, have mer-cy up-on us.

Collect for the Fourth Sunday in Advent

95

O LORD, raise up, we pray thee, thy power, and come among us, and with great might succour us; that whereas, through our sins and wickedness, we are sore let and hindered in running the race that is set before us, thy bountiful grace and mercy may speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be honour and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

Collect for the Advent Season

90

ALMIGHTY God, give us grace that we may cast away the works of darkness, and put upon us the armour of light, now in the time of this mortal life, in which thy Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the quick and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal, through him who liveth and reigneth with thee and the Holy Ghost, now and ever. *Amen.*

The Lesson

Isaiah 40:1-8

Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God. Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her, that her warfare is accomplished, that her iniquity is pardoned: for she hath received of the LORD'S hand double for all her sins. The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the LORD, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill shall be made low: and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough places plain: And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together: for the mouth of the LORD hath spoken it. The voice said, Cry. And he said, What shall I cry? All flesh is grass, and all the goodliness thereof is as the flower of the field: The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: because the spirit of the Lord bloweth upon it: surely the people is grass. The grass withereth, the flower fadeth: but the word of our God shall stand for ever.

Benedictus (St. Luke i. 68)

Hymn 640/BCP 14



BLESSED be the Lord God of | Israel; * for he hath visited and re|deemed • his **people**;
And hath raised up a mighty sal|vation for us, * in the house of his | servant **David**;
As he spake by the mouth of his | holy Prophets, * which have | been • since the | world began;
That we should be saved | from our enemies, * and from the hand of | all that **hate** us.
To perform the mercy promised to our | **forefathers**, * and to remember his | holy covenant;

To perform the oath which he sware to our forefather | Abraham, * that | he would **give** us;
That we being delivered out of the | hand of • our enemies * might | serve him • **without** fear;
In holiness and righteous|ness before him, * all the | days of **our** life.
And thou, child, shalt be called the prophet | of the Highest: * for thou shalt go before the face of the |
Lord • to pre|pare his ways;

To give knowledge of salvation | unto • his people * for the re|mission of their sins,
 Through the tender mercy | of our God; * whereby the day-spring from on | high hath | visit•ed us;
 To give light to them that sit in darkness, and in the | shadow • of death,
 * and to guide our feet | into • the way of peace.
 Glory be to the Father, and | to the Son,
 and | to the Holy Ghost;
 As it was in the beginning, is now, and | ever shall be,
 world without | **end. Amen.**

The Epistle

Philippians 4:4-7

95

Brethren: REJOICE in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice. Let your moderation be known unto all men. The Lord is at hand. Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God. And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus.

Gradual and Alleluia

The Gospel

St. John 1:19-28

95



Glo - ry be to thee, O Lord.

THIS is the record of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, Who art thou? And he confessed, and denied not; but confessed, I am not the Christ. And they asked him, What then? Art thou Elias? And he saith, I am not. Art thou that prophet? And he answered, No. Then said they unto him, Who art thou? that we may give an answer to them that sent us. What sayest thou of thyself? He said, I am the voice of one crying in the wilderness, Make straight the way of the Lord, as said the prophet Esaias. And they which were sent were of the Pharisees. And they asked him, and said unto him, Why baptizest thou then, if thou be not that Christ, nor Elias, neither that prophet? John answered them, saying, I baptize with water: but there standeth one among you, whom ye know not; he it is, who coming after me is preferred before me, whose shoe's latchet I am not worthy to unloose. These things were done in Bethabara beyond Jordan, where John was baptizing.



Praise - be to thee, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

71

I BELIEVE in one God the Father Almighty, Maker of heaven and earth, And of all things visible and invisible:

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God; Begotten of his Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, Very God of very God; Begotten, not made; Being of one substance with the Father; By whom all things were made: Who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven, And was incarnate by the Holy Ghost of the Virgin Mary, And was made man: And was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate; He suffered and was buried: And the third day he rose again according to the Scriptures: And ascended into heaven, And sitteth on

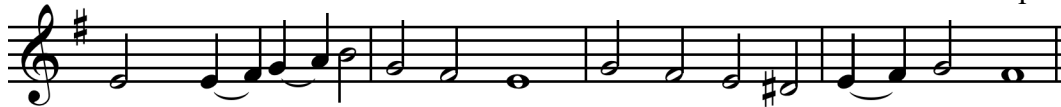
the right hand of the Father: And he shall come again, with glory, to judge both the quick and the dead; Whose kingdom shall have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Ghost, The Lord, and Giver of Life, Who proceedeth from the Father and the Son; Who with the Father and the Son together is worshipped and glorified; Who spake by the Prophets: And I believe one Catholic and Apostolic Church: I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins: And I look for the Resurrection of the dead: And the Life of the world to come. *Amen.*

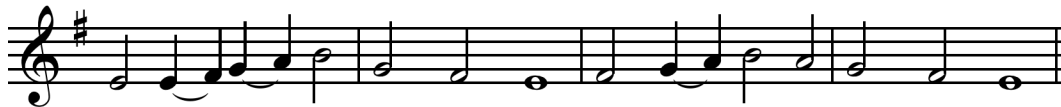
Announcements

Sermon Hymn Aberystwyth

Hymn 440, 2nd Tune
Joseph Parry, 1879



1. Watch-man, tell us of the night, What its signs of pro - mise are.
2. Watch-man, tell us of the night; High - er yet that star as - cends.
3. Watch-man, tell us of the night, For the morn-ing seems to dawn.



Trav - 'ler, o'er yon moun-tain's height, See that glo - ry - beam - ing star.
Trav - 'ler, bless - ed - ness and light, Peace and truth its course por - tends.
Trav - 'ler, dark - ness takes its flight, Doubt and ter - ror are with-drawn.



Watch-man, does its beau - teous ray Aught of joy or hope fore - tell?
Watch-man, will its beams a - lone Gild the spot that gave them birth?
Watch-man, let thy wan - d'rings cease; Hie thee to thy qui - et home.



Trav - 'ler, yes; it brings the day, Pro - mised day of Is - ra - el.
Trav - 'ler, a - ges are its own; See, it bursts o'er all the earth.
Trav - 'ler, lo! the Prince of Peace, Lo! the Son of God is come!

John Bowring, 1825

Sermon

The Rt. Rev. Anthony F. Rasch

Offertory Verse and Sentences

Offertory Hymn

Winchester New

Hymn 10

Musikalisches Handbuch, Hambrug, 1690

1. On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry An - noun - ces that the
 2. Then cleansed be ev - ery breast from sin; Make straight the way of
 3. For thou art our sal - va - tion, Lord, Our re - fuge, and our
 4. To heal the sick stretch out thine hand, And bid the fall - en
 5. All praise, e - ter - nal Son, to thee, Whose ad - vent doth thy



Lord is night; A - wake and heark - en, for he brings Glad
 God with - in, And let each heart pre - pare a home Where
 great re - ward; With - out thy grace we waste a - way Like
 sin - ner stand; Shine forth, and let thy light re - store Earth's
 peo - ple free; Whom with the Fa - ther we a - dore And

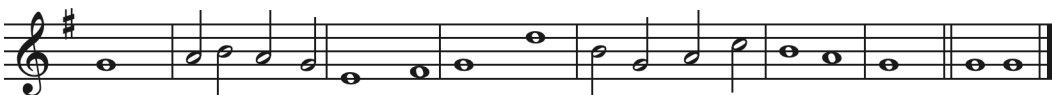


ti - dings of the King of kings. A - men.
 such a might - y guest may come.
 flowers that wi - ther and de - cay.
 own true love - li - ness once more.
 Ho - ly Ghost for ev - er - more.

Charles Coffin, 1736; Tr. John Chandler, 1837, alt.

Doxology (Hymnal 139, 1st verse)

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise him, all crea - tures here be - low;



Praise him above, ye heav'n - ly host: Praise Father, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Amen.

Bidding Prayers**Orate, Fratres**

Celebrant: Brethren, pray that my sacrifice and yours may be acceptable to God the Father Almighty.

People: The Lord receive this sacrifice at thy hands, to the praise and glory of his Name; both to our benefit and that of all his holy Church. *Amen.*

Prayer for the Whole State of Christ's Church

74

General Confession

75

ALMIGHTY God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, Maker of all things, Judge of all men; We acknowledge and bewail our manifold sins and wickedness, Which we, from time to time, most grievously have committed, By thought, word, and deed, Against thy Divine Majesty, Provoking most justly thy wrath and indignation against us. We do earnestly repent, And are heartily sorry for these our misdoings; The remembrance of them is grievous unto us; The burden of them is

intolerable. Have mercy upon us, Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; For thy Son our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, Forgive us all that is past; And grant that we may ever hereafter Serve and please thee In newness of life, To the honour and glory of thy Name; Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Absolution

76

The Comfortable Words

76

Sursum Corda

76

Priest The Lord be with you. *All* And with thy spirit.

Priest Lift up your hearts.

All We lift them up unto the Lord.

Priest Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.

All It is meet and right so to do.

Preface

79

Sanctus and Benedictus

Hymn 796

John Merbecke, 1549

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Lord God of hosts,

Heav'n and earth are full of thy glo-ry: Glo-ry be to thee, O Lord Most High.

Bless-ed is he that com-eth in the Name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the High-est.

Celebrant: Let us pray : And now, as our Saviour Christ hath taught us, we are bold to say:

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn 722

Traditional, very ancient



Our Fa-ther, who art in hea-ven, Hal-low-ed be thy Name. Thy king-dom come.



Thy will be done, On earth as it— is— in hea-ven. Give us this day our dai-ly bread.



And for-give us our tres-pass-es, As we for-give those who tres-pass a-gainst us.



And lead us not in-to temp-ta - tion, But de-liv-er us from e - vil.



For thine is the king-dom, And the pow'r, and the glo-ry, for ev-er and ev - er.



A - men. —

The Fracture

The Peace

Celebrant: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Agnus Dei

Hymn 706

John Merbecke, 1549



O Lamb of God, that ta-kest a - way the sins of the world, have mer-cy up-on us.



O Lamb of God, that ta-kest a-way the sins of the world, have mer-cy up-on us.



O Lamb of God, that ta-kest a-way the sins of the world, grant us thy peace.

Prayer of Humble Access

82

Communion of the Faithful

Celebrant: Behold the Lamb of God; behold Him that taketh away the sins of the world.

People: (3x) Lord, I am not worthy that thou shouldst come under my roof, but speak the word only and my soul shall be healed.

For those attending in person, we have resumed the custom of kneeling or standing at the Altar Rail to Receive. Here are the various Ways of Receiving:

- 1. Receive the Host into your hands, or directly onto the tongue.
Receive directly from the Chalice, guiding it gently by the base.*
- 2. Receive by Intinction, receiving the Host into your hands and leaving it there; the Deacon will take it and dip it in the Chalice and place it onto your tongue.*
- 3. You may receive only the Host of itself, either in your hands or on your tongue. Our Lord is equally present in either Form.*

As a precaution and courtesy to others and for your own safety, we respectfully request that in the event you are currently suffering from a cold or other communicable illness, please refrain from receiving from the Chalice.

For those attending remotely: Please take a moment of silence to realize the presence of Jesus Christ in your soul and make your spiritual communion.

In union, O Dear Lord, with the faithful at every Altar of Thy Church, where Thy blessed Body and Blood have been offered to the Father, I desire to offer Thee praise and thanksgiving. I present to Thee my soul and body, with the earnest wish that I may ever be united to Thee. And since I cannot now receive Thee sacramentally, I beseech Thee to come spiritually into my heart. I unite myself to Thee, and embrace Thee with all the affections of my soul. O let nothing ever separate me from Thee. Let me live and die in Thy love. Amen.

Grant, O Lord Jesus Christ, that as the hem of Thy garment, touched in faith, healed the woman who could not touch Thy Body, so the soul of Thy servant may be healed by like faith in Thee, Whom I cannot now sacramentally receive; through Thy tender mercy, Who livest and reignest with the Father in the unity of the Holy Ghost ever one God. Amen.

Communion Hymn

Merton

Hymn 9

William Henry Monk, 1850



1. Hark! a thrill - ing voice is sound - ing; "Christ is nigh," it
2. Wa - ken'd by the sol - emn warn - ing, Let the earth - bound
3. Lo! the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, Comes with par - don
4. So when next he comes with glo - ry, And the world is
5. Ho - nor, glo - ry, might, and bless - ing To the Fa - ther

seems to say; "Cast a - way the works of dark - ness,
soul a - rise; Christ, her sun, all sloth dis - pell - ing,
down from heav'n; Let us haste, with tears of sor - row,
wrapped in fear, May he with his mer - cy shield us,
and the Son, With the ev - er - last - ing Spi - rit

O ye chil - dren of the day." A - men.
Shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
One and all to be for - giv'n
And with words of love draw near.
While un - end - ing a - ges run.

Edward Caswall, 1849, alt.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

83

Almighty and everliving God, we most heartily thank thee, for that thou dost vouchsafe to feed us who have duly received these holy mysteries, with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of thy Son our Saviour Jesus Christ; and dost assure us thereby of thy favour and goodness towards us; and that we are very members incorporate in the mystical body of thy Son, which is the blessed company of all faithful people; and are also heirs through hope of thy everlasting kingdom, by the merits of his most precious death and passion. And we humbly beseech thee, O heavenly Father, so to assist us with thy grace, that we may continue in that holy fellowship, and do all such good works as thou hast prepared for us to walk in; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, world without end. *Amen.*

Communion Verse and Post-Communion Prayers

Dismissal

Episcopal Blessing

Bishop: Blessed be the name of the Lord

People: From this time forth forever more.

Bishop: Our help is in the name of the Lord

People: Who hath made heaven and earth.

Bishop: The Peace of God, which passeth all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord: And the ✠Blessing of

God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost, be amongst you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

Retiring Processional:

Hymn 4

Greenland

Johann Michael Haydn, 1819



1. Re - joice, re - joice, be - liev - ers! And let your lights ap - pear;
2. See that your lamps are burn - ing; Re - plen - ish them with oil;
3. O wise and ho - ly vir - gins, Now raise your voi - ces higher,
4. Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



The eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, And dark - er night is near.
Look now for your sal - va - tion, The end of sin and toil.
Un - til in songs of tri - umph Ye meet the an - gel choir.
A - rise, thou Sun so longed for, O'er this be - night - ed sphere!



The Bride - groom is a - ris - ing, And soon he will draw nigh;
The watch - ers on the moun - tain Pro - claim the Bride-groom near;
The mar - riage - feast is wait - ing, The gates wide o - pen stand;
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, We plead, O Lord, to see



Up, watch in ex - pec - ta - tion! At mid - night comes the cry. A-men.
Go meet him as he com - eth, With al - le - lu - ias clear.
Rise up, ye heirs of glo - ry! The Bride-groom is at hand.
The day of earth's re - demp - tion, And ev - er be with thee!

Laurentius Laurenti, 1700; Tr. Sarah B. Findlater, 1854, alt.

Announcements

Celebrant

The Right Reverend Anthony F. Rasch

Assisting & Litanist

The Reverend Deacon John Yeager

Epistoler

Robert Jones

Lector

Thurifer and Acolyte

Tony Shehata

Crucifer and Acolyte in Training

Robert Yeager

Accompanist

Beth Kubo, Ken Kubo

Zoom Wrangler

Landon Melamed

Altar Guild

Susan King

Midweek Mass will be celebrated on Wednesday at 10 am (St. John the Evangelist).

Happy Birthday!

Robert Jones (29 Dec)

Ken Kubo (29 Dec)

Our thanks to those who helped decorate the Church for the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day Masses!

The Christmas Schedule

12/24 9:00 pm : Carols

12/24 9:30 pm : The Solemn High Mass of the Nativity

12/25 10:00 am : Choral Mass of Christmas

NOTE: IF YOU PLAN TO COME on CHRISTMAS EVE, as we do not have a regular gate guard this year, please plan to ARRIVE EARLY, as the Gate will be CLOSED after 9:00 p.m., and not reopened until after Mass concludes.

For online and in person attendees: please note that we are piloting a new sound system being provided by EDC Acoustics, sponsored by the Shehata family. We hope that this improves both our online sound as well as within the church itself. Comments are welcome!