

# 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

Commemoration of the Feast of St. Thomas the Apostle (21 Dec)  
22 December 2024

### 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

Hymn 1

Stuttgart

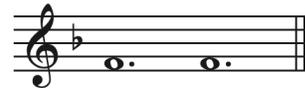
Christian Friedrich Witt, Gotha, 1715



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.*

## Collect for Saint Thomas the Apostle

228

ALMIGHTY and everliving God, who, for the greater confirmation of the faith, didst suffer thy holy Apostle Thomas to be doubtful in thy Son's resurrection; Grant us so perfectly, and without all doubt, to believe in thy Son Jesus Christ, that our faith in thy sight may never be reprov'd. Hear us, O Lord, through the same Jesus Christ, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost, be all honour and glory, now and for evermore. *Amen.*

## The Lesson

### *Isaiah 40:1-5*

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.

## 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 always: 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

Windsor

Hymn 462, 1<sup>st</sup> Tune

M. William Damon's *Booke of Musicke*, 1591



1. Je - sus, the ve - ry thought of thee With sweet - ness fills the breast;
2. No voice can sing, no heart can frame, Nor can the mem - 'ry find,
3. O hope of ev - 'ry con - trite heart, O joy of all the meek,
4. But what to those who find? Ah, this Nor tongue nor pen can show;
5. Je - sus, our on - ly joy be thou, As thou our prize wilt be;



But sweet - er far thy face to see, And in thy pres - ence rest. *Amen.*  
A sweet - er sound than Je - sus' Name, The Sa - viour of man - kind.  
To those who fall, how kind thou art! How good to those who seek!  
The love of Je - sus, what it is, None but who love him know.  
In thee be all our glo - ry now, And through e - ter - ni - ty.

Latin, 12<sup>th</sup> cent.; Tr. Edward Caswall, 1849, alt.

### Sermon

The Rt. Rev. Anthony F. Rasch

### Offertory Verse and Sentences

**Offertory Hymn**  
Veni Emmanuel

Hymn 2  
Adapted from plainsong, Mode I  
by Thomas Helmore, 1854



1. O come, O come, Em - man - - u - el,  
2. O come, thou Wis - dom from \_\_\_\_\_ on high,  
3. O come, O come, thou Lord \_\_\_\_\_ of might,  
4. O come, thou Rod of Jes - - se's stem,  
5. O come, thou Key of Da - - vid, come,  
6. O come, thou Day - spring from \_\_\_\_\_ on high,  
7. O come, De - sire of na - - tions, bind



And ran - som cap - tive Is - - - ra - el,  
Who ord - 'rest all things might - - - i - ly;  
Who to thy tribes on Si - - nai's height  
From eve - ry foe de - li - - ver them  
And o - pen wide our heav'n - - ly home;  
And cheer us by thy draw - - ing nigh;  
In one the hearts of all \_\_\_\_\_ man - kind;



That mourns in lone - ly ex - - - ile here  
To us the path of know - ledge show,  
In an - cient times didst give \_\_\_\_\_ the law,  
That trust thy might - y pow'r \_\_\_\_\_ to save,  
Make safe the way that leads \_\_\_\_\_ on high,  
Dis - perse the gloom - y clouds \_\_\_\_\_ of night,  
Bid thou our sad di - vi - - sions cease,



Un - til the Son of God \_\_\_\_\_ ap - pear.  
And teach us in her ways \_\_\_\_\_ to go.  
In cloud, and ma - jes - ty, \_\_\_\_\_ and awe.  
And give them vict' - ry o'er \_\_\_\_\_ the grave.  
And close the path to mi - - - se - ry.  
And death's dark sha - dow put \_\_\_\_\_ to flight.  
And be thy - self our King \_\_\_\_\_ of Peace.



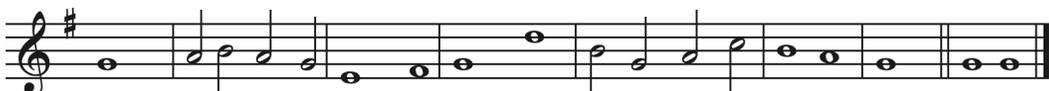
Rejoice! Re-joyce! Em-man-u-el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra-el! Amen.

*Hymnal Version*, based on Latin, c. 9<sup>th</sup> cent.; St. 1, 3-6, pub. Cologne, 1710

**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

The musical score for 'Sursum Corda' is written in G minor (one flat) and 4/4 time. It consists of six staves of music. The first staff is for the Priest, with lyrics 'The Lord be with you. And with thy spirit.' The second staff is also for the Priest, with lyrics 'Lift up your hearts.' The third staff is for All, with lyrics 'We lift them up unto the Lord.' The fourth staff is for the Priest, with lyrics 'Let us give thanks unto our Lord God.' The fifth staff is for All, with lyrics 'It is meet and right so to do.' The music features a mix of quarter and eighth notes, with some phrases marked with slurs.

*Priest* The Lord be with you. 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.

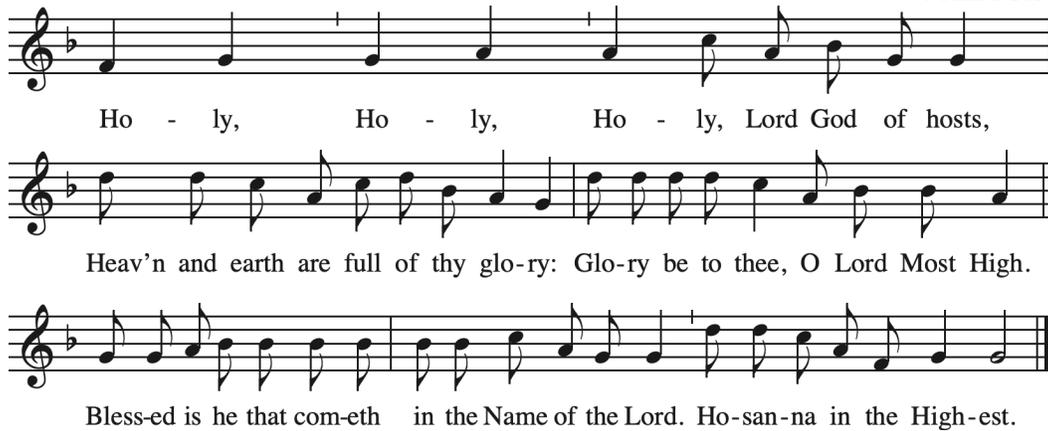
*All* It is meet and right so to do.

### Preface

## 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.

## Prayer of Consecration

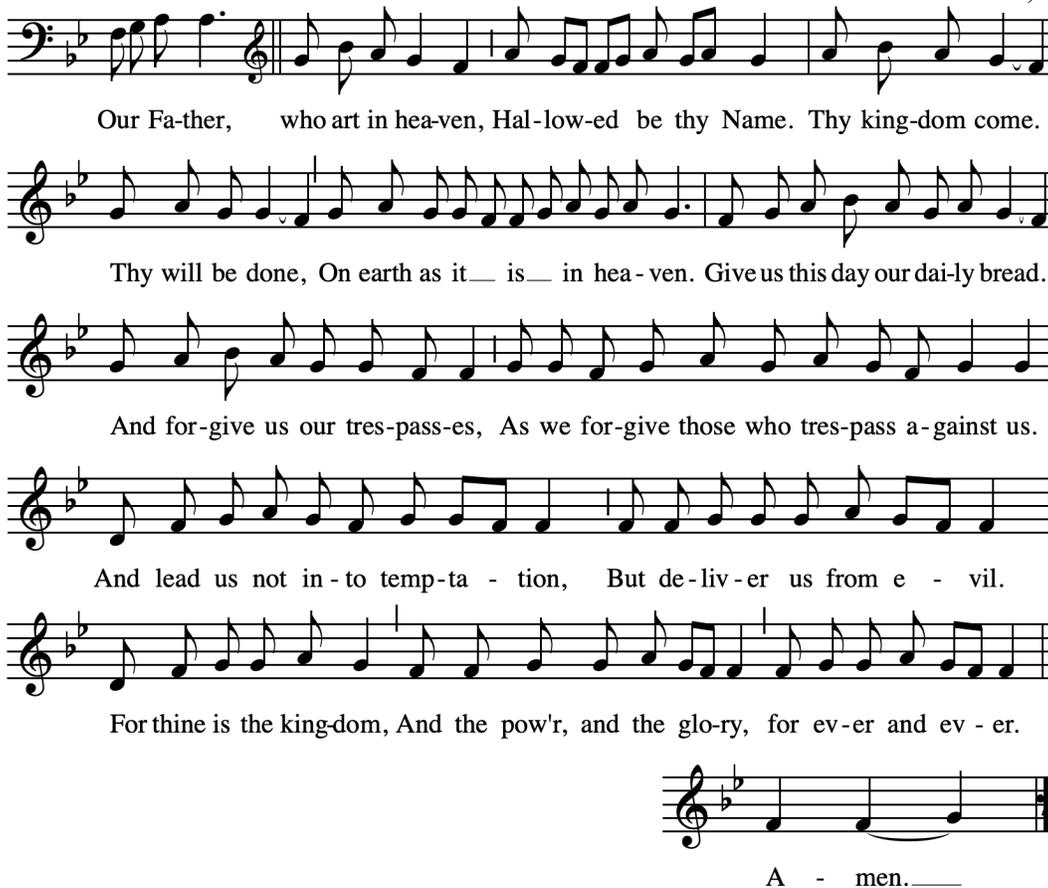
80

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

*By traditional use, prayed by the Priest on behalf of all who will receive. By St. Mary's usage, the congregation may join in praying aloud:*

WE do not presume to come to this thy Table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in thy manifold and great mercies. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under thy Table. But thou art the same Lord, whose property is always to have mercy: Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat the flesh of thy dear Son Jesus Christ, and to drink his blood, that our sinful bodies may be made clean by his body, and our souls washed through his most precious blood, and that we may evermore dwell in him, and he in us. *Amen.*

## 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

St. Thomas

Hymn 199 and 200, 2<sup>nd</sup> Tune

J. F. Wade's *Cantus Diversi*, 1751



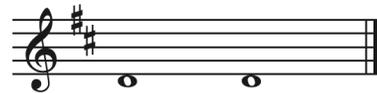
1. Now, my tongue, the mys - try tell - ing Of the glo - rious Bo - dy sing,  
 2. Giv'n for us, and con - de - scend - ing To be born for us be - low,  
 3. That last night at sup - per ly - ing Mid the twelve, hi cho - sen band,  
 4. Word - made - flesh, true bread he mak - eth By his word his Flesh to be,  
 5. There - fore we, be - fore him bend - ing, This great Sa - cra - ment re - vere;  
 6. Glo - ry let us give and bless - ing To the Fa - ther and the Son,



And the Blood, all price ex - cell - ing, Which the Gen - tiles' Lord and King,  
 He with men in con - verse blend - ing Dwelt, the seed of truth to sow,  
 Je - sus, with the Law com - ply - ing, Keeps the feast its rites de - mand;  
 Wine his Blood; when man par - tak - eth, Though his sen - ses fail to see,  
 Types and sha - dows have their end - ing, For the new - er rite is here;  
 Ho - nor, thanks, and praise ad - dress - ing, While e - ter - nal a - ges run;



Once on earth a - mong us dwell - ing, Shed for this world's ran - som - ing.  
 Till he closed with won - drous end - ing His most pa - tient life of woe.  
 Then, more pre - cious food sup - ply - ing, Gives him - self with his own hand.  
 Faith a - lone, when sight for - sak - eth, Shows true hearts the my - ste - ry.  
 Faith, our out - ward sense be - friend - ing, Makes our in - ward vi - sion clear.  
 Ev - er too his love con - fess - ing Who from both with both is One.



A - men.

St. Thomas Aquinas, 1263; *Hymnal Version*, 1940

### Prayer of Thanksgiving

83

By traditional use, prayed by the Priest. By St. Mary's usage, the congregation may join in praying aloud:

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 11

St. Stephen

William Jones, 1789



1. The King shall come when morn - ing dawns And  
 2. Not, as of old, a lit - tle child, To  
 3. The King shall come when morn - ing dawns And  
 4. And let the end - less bliss be - gin, By  
 5. The King shall come when morn - ing dawns And



light tri - umph - ant breaks; When beau - ty gilds the  
 bear, and fight, and die, But crowned with glo - ry  
 earth's dark night is past; O haste the ris - ing  
 wea - ry saints fore - told, When right shall tri - umph  
 light and beau - ty brings: Hail, Christ the Lord! Thy



east - ern hills And life to joy a - wakes. A - men.  
 like the sun That lights the morn - ing sky.  
 of that morn, The day that aye shall last;  
 o - ver wrong, And truth shall be ex - tolled.  
 peo - ple pray, Come quick - ly King of kings.

Greek; Tr. John Brownlie, 1907

## Announcements

Celebrant and Litanist

Assisting

Epistoler

Lector

Acolyte

The Right Reverend Anthony F. Rasch

The Reverend Deacon John Yeager

Robert Jones

Tony Shehata

Acolyte in Training  
Accompanist  
Altar Guild  
Zoom Wrangler

Robert Yeager  
Beth Kubo  
Susan King  
Landon Melamed

*Christmas Eve Schedule*

9:00 pm : A Service of Carols

9:30 pm : Solemn High Mass of the Nativity

Please plan to arrive a bit early as the gate will be closed shortly after 9:30 pm and will not be unlocked for exiting until after Christmas Eve Mass has concluded.

There will *not* be a Mass on Christmas Day!

Welcome to our Visitors this morning. Please sign the Visitor Register inside the Church Entrance. You are cordially invited to join us in the Parish Hall for Coffee and Refreshments after the Mass.

Today is the day to bring inexpensive personal items, gift-wrapped in advance with Christmas paper, and labeled for a Man or a Woman, to be taken this week to the Emerald Convalescent Home for elderly patients who are without families. If you brought a gift, thank you and God bless you!

Plans for the Annual Christmas Parish Party are still uncertain. Gretchen Martin may possibly host but needs to know how many members would plan to attend. We will have a show of hands during announcements today! In the even we do have a party, please bring a wrapped gift for our Gift Exchange (item should be something inexpensive but nice that you yourself would be pleased to receive).

The Annual Parish Meeting will be conducted on Sunday, 26 January, in the Parish Hall following the Mass. Business to be conducted includes: election of two new members for a three year term on the Vestry, election of the 2025 Junior Warden, appointment of the 2025 Senior Warden, presentation and acceptance of the Treasurer's Annual Report for 2024, presentation and approval of the 2025 Parish Budget, and the election of delegates and alternates to the 2025 Diocesan Synod.

All are welcome to attend, however to propose or second motions or to vote, you must be a member of the Parish in good standing. To be nominated to the Vestry, you must be: 18 years of age or older, listed as a Member in the Parish Register, a Contributor of Record, and regular in attendance. Please, if you plan to nominate someone from the floor, ask their permission in advance to be certain of their willingness to serve and that they meet the Parish by-law requirements as stated.