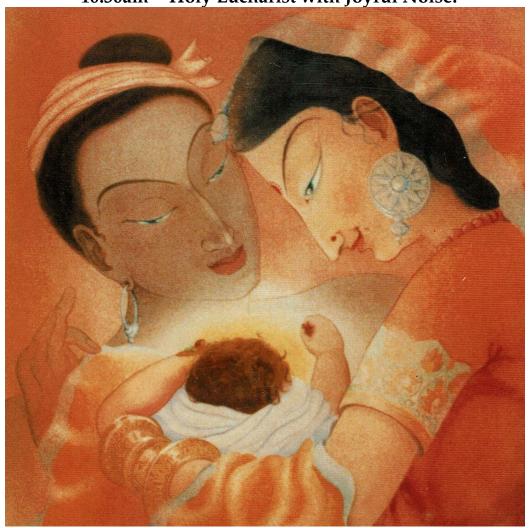
The Episcopal Parish of Saint Paul Presentation of Jesus in the Temple

~Candlemas~

February 2, 2025

10:30am ~ Holy Eucharist with Joyful Noise! ~



Wesley, Frank, 1923-2002. Holy Family in Saffron, from **Art in the Christian Tradition**, a project of the Vanderbilt Divinity Library, Nashville, TN. https://diglib.library.vanderbilt.edu/act-imagelink.pl?RC=59201 [retrieved January 28, 2025]. Original source: Estate of Frank Wesley, https://www.frankwesleyart.com/main_page.htm.

~From wherever you have come, with whatever you bring, you are welcome here.~

SERVICE MINISTERS

Celebrant and Preacher: The Rev. Dr. Meghan T. Sweeney

Musician: Brenda Carter

Lay Eucharistic Minister (LEM): David Montgomery Reader 1: Kathryn Anderson Reader 2: Phil Whitbeck

Usher/Attendance: Christopher Gruener

Altar Guild: Margaret Hummel and Amy Trueblood Counting: Kim Koger and Kathryn Anderson

Tech: Will Holz

SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Happy Birthday Katherine Ballas (February 3)! Happy Birthday Susan Boyer (February 6)!

IN OUR DIOCESAN CYCLE OF PRAYER:

For the Episcopal Church; for Sean Rowe, our Presiding Bishop; and Julia Whitworth, our Diocesan Bishop; and for the following churches of the Boston Harbor Deanery: St. Mark's Church, Dorchester (Boston), St. Mary's Church, Dorchester (Boston); for the Epiphany School, Dorchester; and for The Diocesan Council.

PARISH PRAYER LIST - PRAYERS REQUESTED FOR:

Kristin, Deb, Susan and Galen Boyer, Sarah Conger, the Katz family, David and Susanna Lee, Mary Lou and Charlie Montgomery, David Murphy, Gary Koger, David Waters, David Tabors, Barry Koger, Joyce Conolly, Matt Beavin, Jim Nolan, Gordon Ledgard, the Global Village Children's Project, the Centre Street Food Pantry, NewCity Church, and AA.

(To add a name to the prayer list, please contact Lise at office@parishofstpaul.org or Rev. Meghan, or use the QR code below.)



RECEIVE THE PARISH NEWSLETTER!

We usually send about one email per week -- we promise we won't bombard you with email!



STAFF

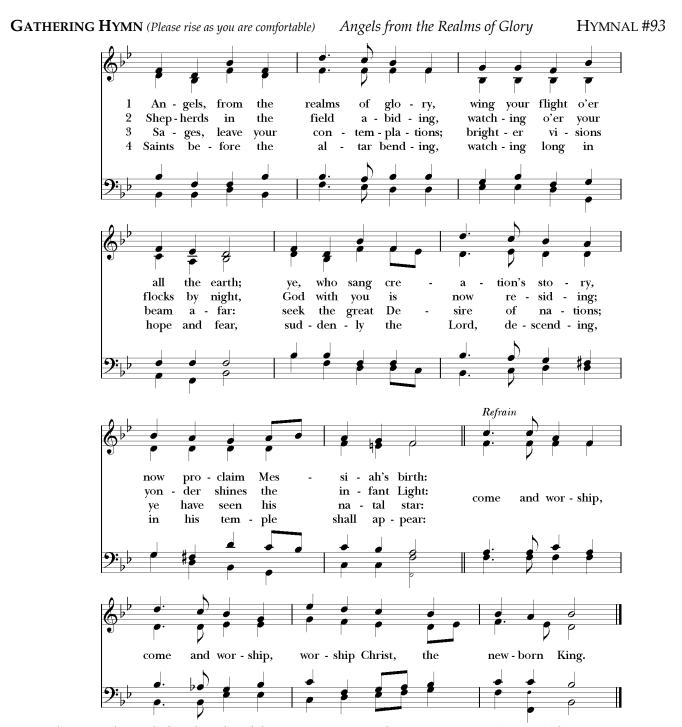
Priest-in-Charge: The Rev. Dr. Meghan T. Sweeney -- meghan@parishofstpaul.org. Office Hours: In-Person, usually on Wednesday, 10am -1pm and by appointment (please email Rev. Meghan directly if you would like to make an appointment). Parish Administrator: Lise Brody – office@parishofstpaul.org. Hours: Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday 9-1

10:30am ~ Presentation of Jesus in the Temple (Candlemas) (Year C) ~ ~ Holy Eucharist with Joyful Noise! ~

PreludeMusicians

ENTRANCE RITES

WELCOME: From wherever you have come, with whatever you bring, you are welcome here.



Section: Christmas Title: Angels, from the realms of glory Meter: 87. 87. 87 Words: James Montgomery (1771-1854), alt. Music: Regent Square, Henry Thomas Smart (1813-1879)

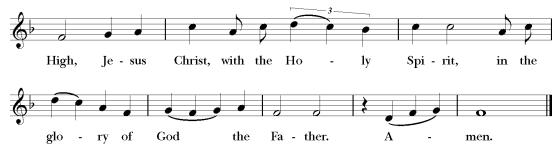
Celebrant: Blessed be the one, holy, and living God.

All: Glory to God for ever and ever.

Celebrant: Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

GLORIA





Section: Canticles Title: Canticle 20, Glory to God: Gloria in excelsis Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932), rev. Copyright: Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing, Inc.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

(This week's Psalm is from the St. Helena Psalter, and the other readings come from the NRSV.)

COLLECT FOR THE DAY

Celebrant: God is with you.

All: And also with you.

Celebrant: Together, let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we humbly pray that, as your only-begotten Child was this day presented in the temple, so we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts by Jesus Christ our Savior; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

THE FIRST READING (*Please be seated.*)

Malachi 3:1-4

Reader 1: A Reading from the Prophet Malachi.

Well, pay attention! I am sending my Messenger to prepare the way for me. The One you seek will suddenly come to the Temple, the Messenger of the Covenant whom you long for will come, says God. But who can endure the day of that coming? Who can stand firm when that One appears?

That day will be like a smelter's fire, a launderer's soap. The One will preside as refiner and purifier, purifying the Children of Levi, refining them like gold and silver – then they will once again make offerings to God in righteousness. Then the offerings of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to God as they were in former days, in years long past.

Reader 1: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

All: Thanks be to God.

Translation by Priests for Equality. The Inclusive Bible: The First Egalitarian Translation

THE PSALM Psalm 84

How dear to me is your dwelling, O God of hosts!

My soul has a desire and longing for your courts;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.

The sparrow has found her a house and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young, by the side of your altars, O God of hosts, my Ruler and my God.

Happy are they who dwell in your house; they will always be praising you.

Happy are the people whose strength is in you; whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.

Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.

They will climb from height to height; the God of gods will be revealed in Zion.

O God of hosts, hear my prayer; hearken, O God of Jacob.

Behold our defender, O God, and look upon the face of your Anointed,

For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room, and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God than to dwell in the tents of the wicked;

For God is both sun and shield and will give grace and glory.

No good thing will God withhold from those who walk with integrity.

O God of hosts, happy are they who put their trust in you!

THE SECOND READING

Hebrews 2:14-18

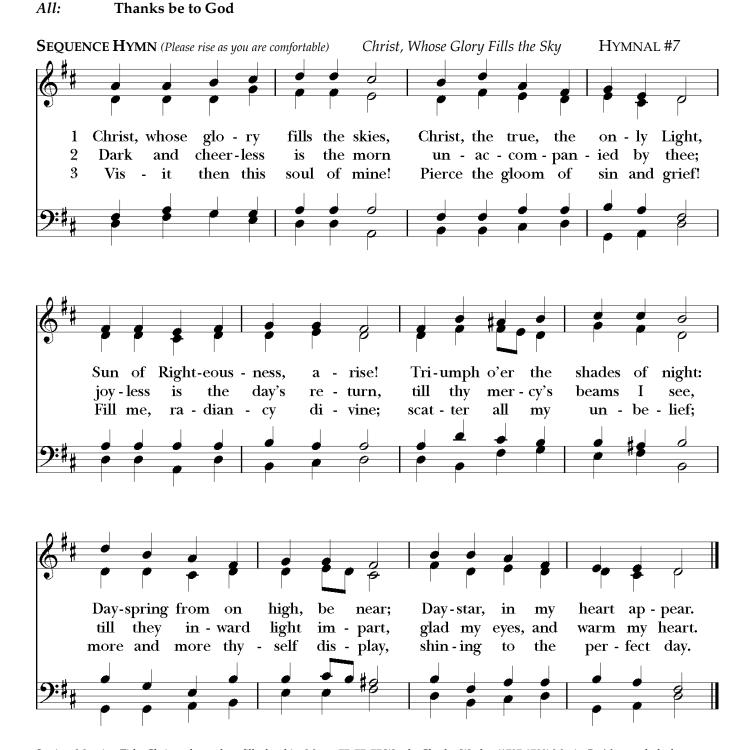
Reader 2: A Reading from the Letter to the Hebrews.

Since God's children share flesh and blood, Jesus himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help

angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

Reader 2: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

All: Thanks be to God



Section: Morning Title: Christ, whose glory fills the skies Meter: 77. 77. 77 Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788) Music: *Ratisbon*, melody from *Geystliche gesangk Buchleyn*, 1524; adapt. att. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870); harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870), alt.



Setting: South African, arr. Gobingca Mxadana © Gobingca Mxadana. Used by permission. All rights reserved.

THE HOLY GOSPEL Luke 2:22-40

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to Luke.

All: Glory to you, O Christ.

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, the parents of Jesus brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to God (as it is written in the law of God, "Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to God"), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of God, "a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons."

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

"O God, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word;

for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel."

And the child's father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, "This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed-- and a sword will pierce your own soul too."

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

Celebrant: The Gospel of Christ.

All: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon Priest-in-Charge

STATEMENT OF FAITH

LEM: Please rise as you are comfortable as we proclaim our Statement of Faith.

We believe in God, whose love is the source of all life and the desire of our lives, whose love was given a human face in Jesus of Nazareth, whose love was crucified by the evil that waits to enslave us all, and whose love, defeating even death, is our glorious promise of freedom. Therefore, though we are sometimes fearful and full of doubt, we put our trust in God; and in the name of Jesus Christ we commit ourselves, in the service of others, to seek justice, and to live in peace; to care for the earth, and to share the commonwealth of God's goodness; to live in the freedom of forgiveness, and the power of the Spirit of love. And in the company of the faithful we will be the church, a community of flawed and forgiving disciples, for the glory of God alone.

Amen.

Statement of Faith adapted from the Iona Abbey Worship Book, © 2001, The Iona Community.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

LEM: In peace, we pray to you, O God.

Silence

LEM: For all people in their daily life and work;

All: For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.

LEM: For this community, the nation, and the world;

All: For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.

LEM: For the just and proper use of your creation;

All: For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.

LEM: For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

All: For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.

LEM: For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

All: For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.

LEM: For Sean, our Presiding Bishop, and Julia, our Diocesan Bishop; for all bishops and other ministers; and for the following churches of the Boston Harbor Deanery: St. Mark's Church, Dorchester (Boston), St. Mary's Church, Dorchester (Boston); for the Epiphany School, Dorchester; and for The Diocesan Council.

All: For all who serve God in God's Church.

LEM: For the special needs and concerns of this congregation; and especially for Kristin, Deb, Susan and Galen Boyer, Sarah Conger, the Katz family, David and Susanna Lee, Mary Lou and Charlie Montgomery, David Murphy, Gary Koger, David Waters, David Tabors, Barry Koger, Joyce Conolly, Matt Beavin, Jim Nolan, Gordon Ledgard, the Global Village Children's Project, the Centre Street Food Pantry, NewCity Church, and AA. Either silently or aloud, for whom and what else do we pray today?

(The People may add their own petitions.)

LEM: Hear us, O God;

All: For your mercy is great.

LEM: We thank you, O God, for all the blessings of this life. Either silently or aloud, for whom and what do we give thanks today?

(The People may add their own thanksgivings.)

LEM: We will exalt you, O God;

All: And praise your Name for ever and ever.

LEM: We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kindom. Either silently or aloud, who do we name and remember this day?

(The People may add their own names.)

LEM: O God, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

All: Who put their trust in you.

PRAYER FOR THE SOCIAL ORDER (BCP P. 823)

LEM: Together let us pray.

All: Grant, O God, that your holy and life-giving Spirit may so move every human heart, and

especially the hearts of the people of this land, that barriers which divide us may crumble, suspicions disappear, and hatreds cease; that our divisions being healed, we may live in justice and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Silence

Celebrant offers a collect.

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God, our neighbors, and ourselves.

Silence

All: O God, we bring you our failure, our hunger, our disappointment, our despair, our greed,

our arrogance, and our fear. We have not loved you with our whole hearts. We have not truly loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are sorry, we are humbled, and we pray that you will strengthen us with your grace. We turn to you, O God. We renounce evil, we

claim love, we choose to be made whole. Forgive us and renew us now.

Celebrant: Almighty God, have mercy on you, forgive your every sin through our Savior Jesus Christ,

strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

All: Amen.

THE PEACE

Celebrant: The peace of God be always with you.

All: And also with you.

HOLY COMMUNION

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

OFFERTORY ANTHEM Choir

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below; Praise God above all life and death Creator, Christ, and Holy Breath. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING - EUCHARISTIC PRAYER C

Celebrant: God be with you.
All: And also with you.
Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.
All: We lift them up to God.
Celebrant: Let us give thanks to God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrant: It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you,

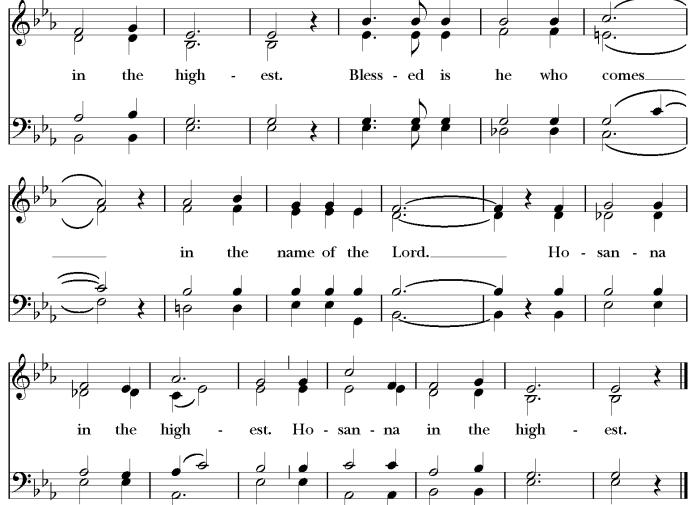
Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth.

(The celebrant inserts a preface.)

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





Section: The Holy Eucharist Title: The Holy Eucharist II, Holy, holy, holy Lord: Sanctus Music: From Deutsche Messe, Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937) Copyright: © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

Celebrant:

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. For in these last days you sent Jesus to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, our Savior Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died Christ has risen Christ will come again.

Celebrant:

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us in Christ's sacrifice, through whom may we all be acceptable to you, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

By Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and forever. **AMEN**.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (We invite you to say whatever version of the Lord's Prayer is most meaningful for you.)

Celebrant: As Jesus taught us, we now pray:

All:

Our Creator in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kindom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kindom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant: We who are many are one body;
All: For we all share in the one bread.

FRACTION ANTHEM



Section: The Holy Eucharist Title: The Holy Eucharist, Fraction Anthem: Jesus, Lamb of God: *Agnus Dei* Music: From *Deutsche Messe*; Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937) Copyright: Adaptation: Copyright © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

Celebrant: These are the Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ lived and loved, died, and rose again for you, and feed on Christ in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.

COMMUNION

You are welcome at this Table, exactly as you are, because of who you are.

If you feel called to the Table, please come forward to receive Communion.

At this time, the Parish of St. Paul offers a common cup as well as individual cups for receiving the consecrated wine. Please either take an individual cup (found on a front pew on the right as you approach the altar for communion) or indicate to the Lay Eucharistic Minister that you would like to receive from the common cup. If you do not wish to receive the consecrated wine, please know that receiving the consecrated bread alone constitutes a full Communion.

If you do not wish to receive Communion, you are welcome to come forward for a blessing – please cross your arms over your chest to indicate that you desire a blessing.

PRAYER OF SPIRITUAL COMMUNION

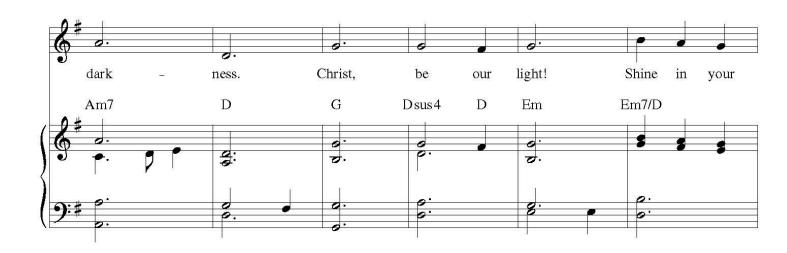
(This prayer of Spiritual Communion is said privately and is intended for individuals participating remotely, and for individuals who may not wish to receive Communion or a blessing.)

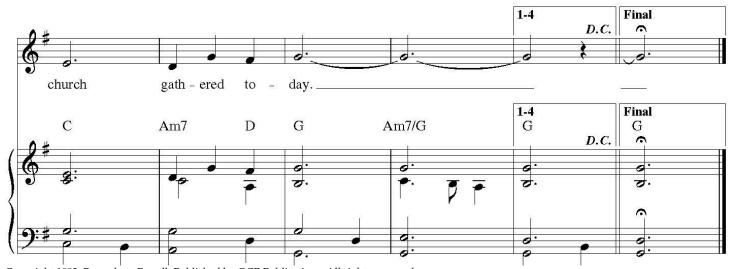
In union, O God, with your faithful people at every altar of your Church, where the Holy Eucharist is now being celebrated, I desire to offer to you praise and thanksgiving. And since I cannot receive you today in the sacrament of bread and wine, I ask you to come spiritually into my heart. Cleanse and strengthen me with your grace, and let me never be separated from you. May I live in you, and you in me, in this life and in the life to come. Amen.











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POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER (Please rise as you are comfortable)

Celebrant: Let us pray.

All: God of abundance, you have fed us with the bread of life and cup of compassion. You have united us with Christ, and you have made us one with all peoples and creatures in heaven and on earth. Now send us forth in the power of your Spirit, that our lives may

give birth to your love in the world, and that we may continue to make our home in your

life. Amen.

THE BLESSING

PROCESSIONAL HYMN (Please rise as you are comfortable) Christ is the World's True Light **HYMNAL** #542



Section: The Church's Mission Title: Christ is the world's true Light Meter: 67. 67. 66. 66 Words: George Wallace Briggs (1875-1959), alt. Music: St. Joan, Percy E. B. Coller (1895-?) Copyright: Words: By permission of Oxford University Press. Music: © The Church Pension Fund.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

DISMISSAL

Celebrant: Our worship has ended, let our service begin. Go in peace to love and serve God and God's

people.

All: Thanks be to God.



PARISH NOTICES

Renewing the Prayer List

Beginning on February 9, the parish prayer list will be renewed (this is something we hope to do quarterly). If you would like to keep a name on the prayer list, or add a name to the list, please be in contact with Lise in the parish office or with Rev. Meghan, or use the QR code below.



Prayers of the People - Add an Intention Before Liturgy

Beginning on February 9, a bowl or basket will be set on the altar during the Liturgy of the Word, and slips of paper will be available next to the bowl or basket *and* on the entrance table inside the church. Please feel free to write an intention and place it into the bowl or basket before our liturgy begins, and the Lay Eucharistic Minister for the day will include these in the Prayers of the People. (Prayers offered through the basket or bowl will be read aloud only on the Sunday they are submitted).

Pastoral Care

If you desire pastoral care for a particular need, please be in contact with Rev. Meghan. It could be as simple as a private prayer request emailed to her, or an in-person conversation about something of concern.

Prayer Circle

Beginning in Lent, we will have a prayer circle that will meet monthly on Zoom in the evening. More details forthcoming.

Receive the Parish Newsletter!

We usually send about one email per week -- we promise we won't bombard you with email!



Lay Eucharistic Ministers needed

The ministry of Lay Eucharistic Minister is an essential ministry in the sacramental life of our parish. If you find yourself curious about or drawn to serving as a LEM, please be in contact with Rev. Meghan.

Can Redemption Volunteers

Volunteers sought to assist with can redemption for the Plenty ministry. Please connect with Christopher Gruener if you can assist.

If you have any questions, comments, or concerns, please feel free to reach out to our Vestry!

Priest-in-Charge: The Rev. Dr. Meghan T. Sweeney Co-Warden: Kim Koger, mkskoger5@gmail.com

Co-Warden: David Montgomery, dmontgomery@montlegal.com

Treasurer: Richard Pearce, Richard@northinfo.com Clerk: Bernice Cramer, bernicecramer@gmail.com Kathryn Anderson, kmanderson.english@gmail.com Chris Gruener, crossroadscounseling101@gmail.com

Dustin Ledgard, ledgarddustin@gmail.com