# **HOLY EUCHARIST: Rite II**

# THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD December 24, 2020 ♦ 7:00 p.m.

While we're unable to be in church together, we gather this night as the church, the Body of Christ.

Wherever you are, we hope you'll participate fully in our worship through singing, prayer, hearing the Good News of Jesus Christ, and receiving spiritual communion. May God richly bless you as you bless us...Merry Christmas!



#### **PRELUDE**

## O holy night

Adolphe Adam

Andrew Etherington, tenor

O Holy Night! The stars are brightly shining, It is the night of the dear Saviour's birth.

Long lay the world in sin and error pining. Till He appeared and the Spirit felt its worth.

A thrill of hope the weary world rejoices, For yonder breaks a new and glorious morn.

Fall on your knees! Oh, hear the angel voices! O night divine, the night when Christ was born;

O night divine. O night divine.

Truly He taught us to love one another, His law is love and His Gospel is peace.

Chains he shall break, for the slave is our brother. And in his name all oppression shall cease.

Sweet hymns of joy in grateful chorus raise we, Let all within us praise His holy name.

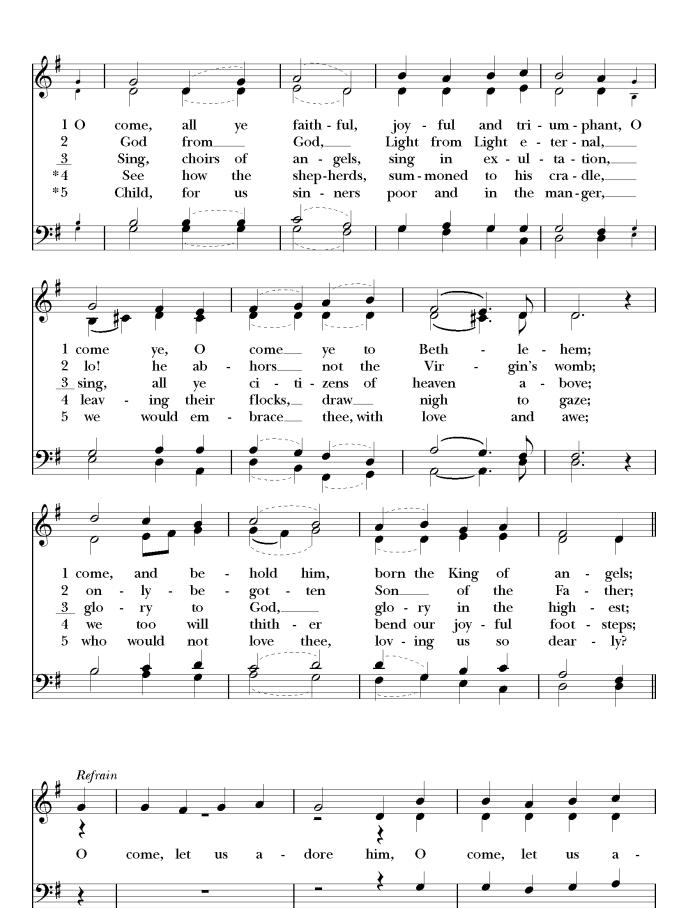
Christ is the Lord! Then ever, ever praise we, His power and glory ever more proclaim!

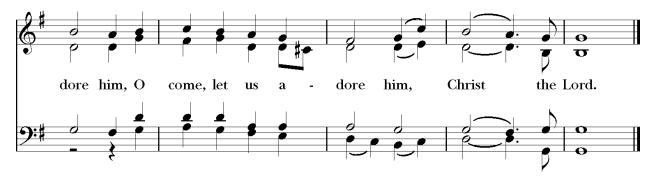
O night divine. O night divine.

Words by Cappeau de Roquemaure

**† Hymn 83** Please sing stanzas 1,2,3,6 only

Adeste fidelis





6 Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning; Jesus, to thee be glory given; Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing;

Refrain

## **Prayer at the Christmas Creche**

Presiding Priest The word was made flesh and dwelt among us:
People And we beheld his glory.

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, you have given us a new revelation of your loving providence in the coming of your Son Jesus Christ to be born of the Virgin Mary: Grant that as he shared our mortality, so we may share his eternity in the glory of your kingdom; where he lives and reigns for ever and ever. **Amen**.





Presiding Priest The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Presiding Priest Let us pray.

O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. **Amen**.

First Reading Isaiah 9:2-7

READER: A Reading from the Book of Isaiah

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness — on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

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

#### People Thanks be to God.

Silence is marked by the ringing of a bell.

#### Psalm 96:1-4,11-12 The people remain seated.

ANTIPHON (refrain) The people sing the antiphon after the choir and after the verses.



CHOIR: Sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the whole earth. Sing to the Lord and bless his Name; proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day. ALL REPEAT THE ANTIPHON

**CHOIR**: Declare his glory among the nation and his wonders among all peoples. For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised; he is more to be feared than all gods.

ALL REPEAT THE ANTIPHON

CHOIR: Let the heavens rejoice, and the earth be glad; let the sea thunder and all that is in it; let the field be joyful and all that is therein. Then shall the trees of the wood shout for joy before the Lord when he comes, when he comes to judge the earth.

ALL REPEAT THE ANTIPHON

Second Reading Titus 2:11-14

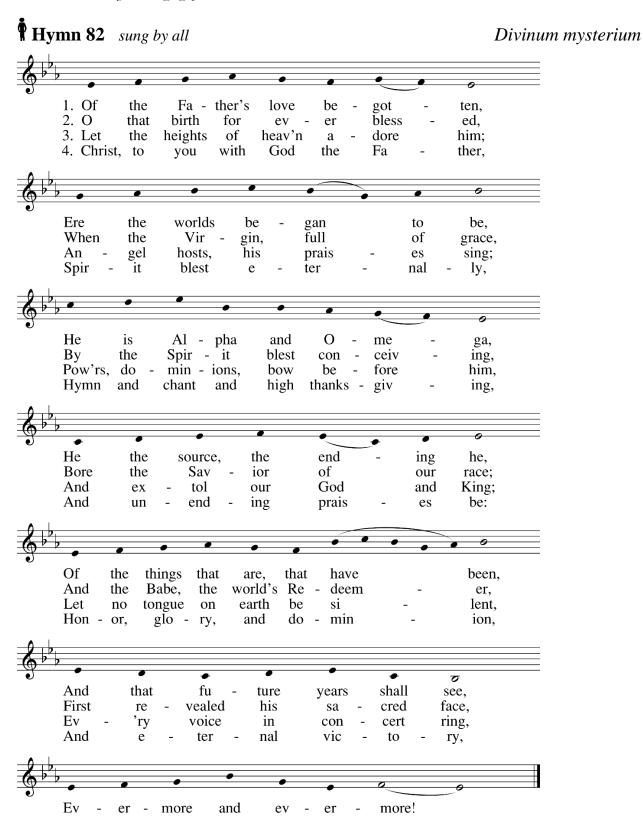
READER: A Reading from the Letter of Paul to Titus

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

#### Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

#### People Thanks be to God.

Silence is marked by the ringing of a bell.



Holy Gospel Luke 2:1-20

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to Luke.

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn. In that region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph, and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child; and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them. But Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them.

The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

**Sermon** Karen Haig

Silence is marked by the ringing of a bell.

## Nicene Creed

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen. We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father. Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man. For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate; he suffered death and was buried. On the third day he rose again

On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the Scriptures;
he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son.

With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.

## **Prayers of the People**

The people pray responsively

Loving and gracious God, on this most holy night we bring to you our deepest hopes:

For the unity and faithful witness of your Church throughout the world, that our common life may manifest the love and blessing which you desire for the whole human family, we pray to you: *Loving God, hear our prayer*.

For all who exercise power in the nations and economies of the world, that their actions may be guided by wisdom, justice and compassion, we pray to you: *Loving God, hear our prayer.* 

For those who live in situations of conflict, violence and oppression, especially the peoples of the Holy Land; and for all who work for justice, freedom, reconciliation and peace, we pray to you: *Loving God, hear our prayer*.

For deliverance from the shadows of hate and fear, that the Light of Christ may dispel every darkness, and bring the dawn of human flourishing, we pray to you: *Loving God, hear our prayer.* 

For refugees and immigrants, for the homeless and those on our own borders, that like the Holy Family they may find places of welcome and shelter *Loving God, hear our prayer*.

For all who are suffering tonight in body, mind or spirit, that they may find confidence and hope in the midst of their troubles; and for all who minister to them in the name of the healing Christ, we pray to you: *Loving God, hear our prayer*.

For those who are experiencing loss, or grief, or sadness, that your unquenchable love may lighten their darkness; give them the comforting balm of your healing touch, we pray to you: *Loving God, hear our prayer.* 

For those who have not felt your closeness, and those who do not yet know how dearly you love them, that they too may receive the blessing of this holy night, we pray to you: *Loving God, hear our prayer*.

For the precious web of life, that we may respect all created beings, live gently on the earth, and see the divine beauty in the world you have made, we pray to you: *Loving God, hear our prayer.* 

For ourselves, that we may see the face of Christ in one another, and show forth Christ's love in everything we do, we pray to you: *Loving God, hear our prayer*.

For everyone whose needs and yearnings are in our hearts tonight, especially those we now name . . . [the people offer particular names and concerns]. We pray to you: *Loving God*, *hear our prayer*.

For all who have died, especially those we now name . . . [the people name the ones they love, who have died] that in communion with all the saints they may forever rejoice in your presence; grant them your peace, and let light perpetual shine upon them, we pray to you: Loving God, hear our prayer.

In thanks and praise for the Incarnation of your beloved Christ, who has shown us the fullness of our true humanity, we offer ourselves, all that we have and all that we are to you, that your Kingdom may come to dwell in our hearts and in our stories. We pray to you: *Loving God, hear our prayer*.

The Presider concludes with this collect:

Living in hope, praying fervently for all who are suffering with COVID, and all who are suffering any injustice, and rejoicing in communion with the ever-blessed Mother of Jesus, Saint Barnabas, and the saints in every generation who have shone with the light of Christ, we praise you, God who loves us. For when we ask, you give; when we seek, you show the way; when we knock, you open. Praise to you for your unfailing grace. Make us now your faithful people, we pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

#### THE PEACE

Presiding Priest The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People And also with you.



## **Holy Communion**

Please remain seated. When we are together in church, an offering of money is collected. You may make an offering by clicking here.

## Music at the Offertory: I saw three ships

arr. James Kirby

I saw three ships come sailing in, On Christmas day, on Christmas day, I saw three ships come sailing in, On Christmas day in the morning.

Our Saviour Christ and his lady
On Christmas day, on Christmas day,
Our Saviour Christ and his lady,
On Christmas day in the morning.

Oh, they sailed into Bethlehem, On Christmas day, on Christmas day, Oh, they sailed into Bethlehem, On Christmas day in the morning.

And all the Angels in Heaven shall sing, On Christmas day, on Christmas day, And all the Angels in Heaven shall sing, On Christmas day in the morning. And what was in those ships all three? On Christmas day, on Christmas day, And what was in those ships all three? On Christmas day in the morning.

Pray whither sailed those ships all three? On Christmas day, on Christmas day, Pray whither sailed those ships all three? On Christmas day in the morning.

And all the bells on earth shall ring, On Christmas day, on Christmas day, And all the bells on earth shall ring, On Christmas day in the morning.

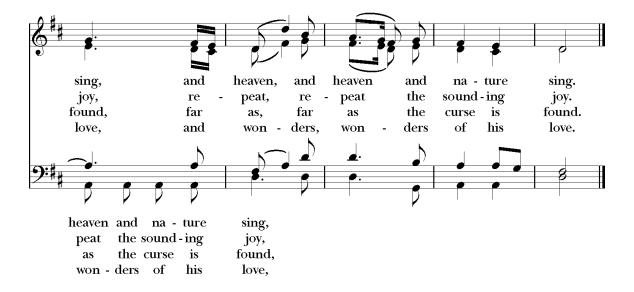
And all the souls on earth shall sing, On Christmas day, on Christmas day, And all the souls on earth shall sing, On Christmas day in the morning.

Then let us all rejoice, amain, On Christmas day, on Christmas day, Then let us all rejoice, amain, On Christmas day in the morning.

### At the Presentation

# PRESENTATION ANTHEM





Presiding Priest All things come from you, O Lord,
People and of your own have we given you.

## The Great Thanksgiving

Presiding Priest The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Presiding Priest Lift up your hearts.

**People** We lift them to the Lord.

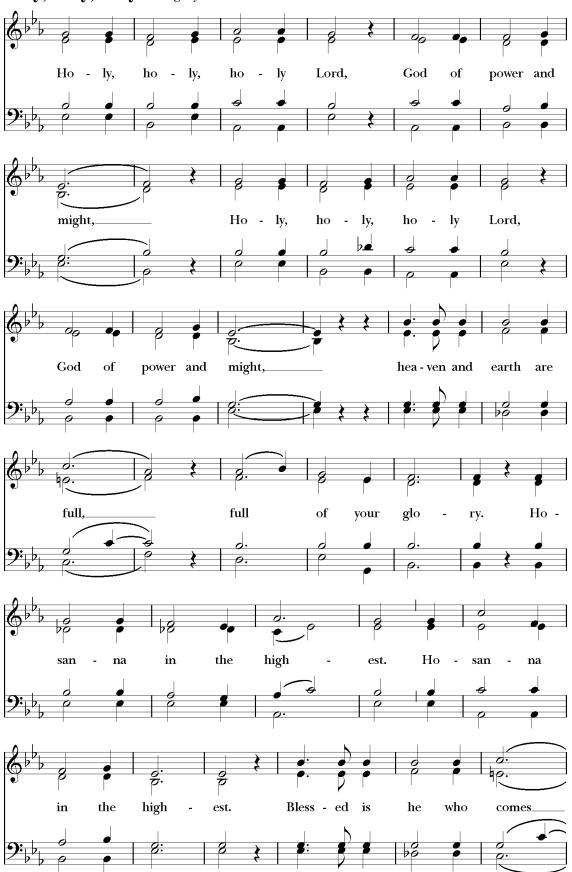
Presiding Priest Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

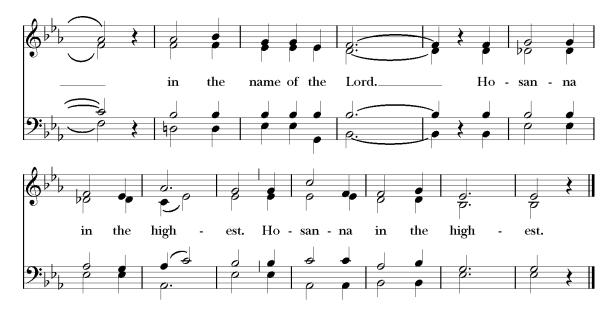
People It is right to give God thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

Because you gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

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:





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#### The Presiding Priest continues

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 the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, 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 Lord 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 he 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 all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Presiding Priest and People

We remember his death, We proclaim his resurrection, We await his coming in glory;

#### The Presiding Priest continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord 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 to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, 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 sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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**.

### The Lord's Prayer

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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.

### **Breaking of the Bread**

The Presiding Priest breaks the consecrated Bread. A period of silence is kept. Then is sung by all

Franz Schubert



Let us pray.

My Jesus, I believe that you are truly present in the Blessed Sacrament of the Altar. I love you above all things, and long for you in my soul. Since I cannot now receive you sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though you have already come, I embrace you and unite myself entirely to you; never permit me to be separated from you. Amen.

#### THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

The gifts of God for the People of God.

SOLO *In the bleak midwinter* 

**Gustav Holst** 

Andrew Etherington, tenor

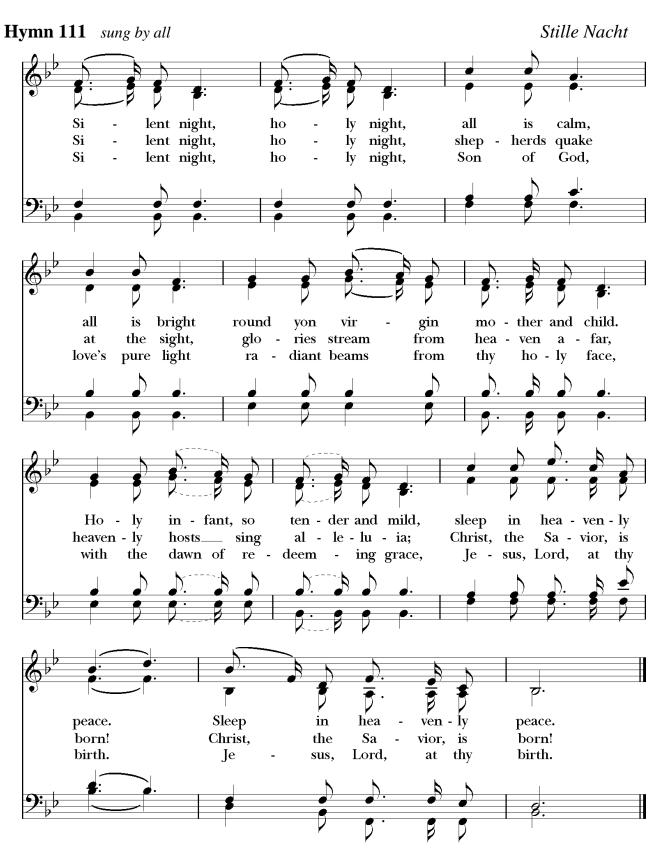
In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan, Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone; Snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow, In the bleak midwinter, long ago.

Our God, Heaven cannot hold Him, nor earth sustain; Heaven and earth shall flee away when He comes to reign. In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed The Lord God Almighty, Jesus Christ.

Angels and archangels may have gathered there, Cherubim and seraphim thronged the air; But His mother only, in her maiden bliss, Worshipped the beloved with a kiss.

What can I give Him, poor as I am? If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb; If I were a Wise Man, I would do my part; Yet what I can I give Him: give my heart.

~ Christina Rossetti



Words: Joseph Mohr (1792-1848); tr. John Freeman Young (1820-1885)

Music: Stille Nacht, melody Franz Xaver Gruber (1787-1863); harm. Carl H. Reinecke (1824-1910)

# PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

After Communion, the Presiding Priest says

Let us pray.

Presiding Priest and People

Almighty and ever living God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living of the members Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

THE BLESSING

**Hymn 87** sung by all, next page

Mendelssohn





Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788), alt. Music: Mendelssohn, Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847); adapt. William H. Cummings (1831-1915)

#### **Dismissal**

The Assisting Priest dismisses the people with these words

Let us go forth into the world rejoicing un the power of the Spirit.

**People** Thanks be to God.

Organ & Trumpet: *Processional* David N. Johnson

## MINISTERS OF THE LITURGY

Presiding Priest & Preacher Assisting Priest Organist & Choirmaster Song Leaders Lectors Videographer The Rev. Karen Haig
The Rev. Jim Friedrich
Paul Roy
Andrew Etherington and The Parish Choir
Joan Collins, Maggie Ball, Michael Ditmore
The Rev. Jim Friedrich

