

HOLY EUCHARIST

Solemn High Mass for the Feast of Thomas Merton

Tuesday, December 10, 2019 ♦ 7:00 p.m.

Welcome to St. Barnabas, we are delighted you're here. We hope you'll participate fully in our worship through singing, prayer, hearing the Good News of Jesus Christ, and coming to communion. May God richly bless you as you bless us.

On December 10, 1968, Thomas Merton—Trappist monk, mystic, theologian, writer and social activist—departed this life. Coincidentally, the great theologian Karl Barth died on the same day. Merton's poetic and passionate writings have spoken deeply to countless people, and tonight's liturgy is woven with many of his prayerful words. We are delighted that you are here tonight and pray that you will be richly blessed by the praises and prayers we share together.

Prelude

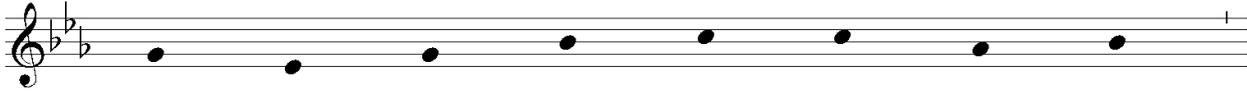
Let all mortal flesh keep silence

Charles Callahan

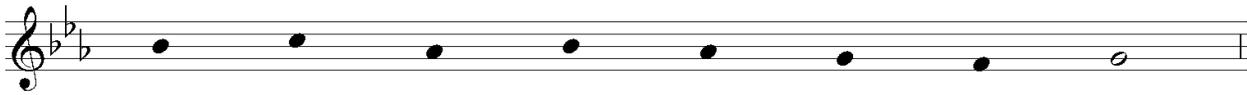


 At the sound of a bell, all stand to sing:

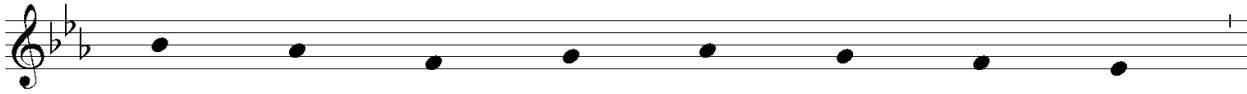
Processional chant

Creator of the stars of night

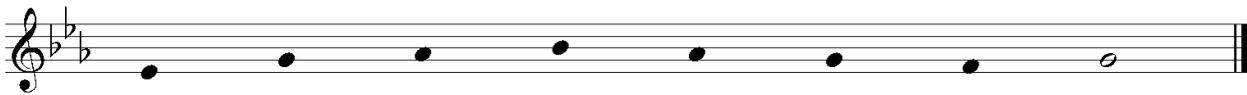
1 Cre - a - tor of the stars of night,
 2 In sor - row that the an - cient curse
 3 When this old world drew on toward night,
 4 At your great Name, O Je - sus, now
 5 Come in your ho - ly might, we pray,
 * 6 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son,



1 your peo - ple's ev - er - last - ing light,
 2 should doom to death a u - ni - verse,
 3 you came; but not in splen - dor bright,
 4 all knees must bend, all hearts must bow:
 5 re - deem us for e - ter - nal day;
 6 and God the Spi - rit, Three in One,



1 O Christ, Re - deem - er of us all,
 2 you came, O Sa - vior, to set free
 3 not as a mon - arch, but the child
 4 all things on earth with one ac - cord,
 5 de - fend us while we dwell be - low
 6 praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry be



1 we pray you hear us when we call.
 2 your own in glo - rious li - ber - ty.
 3 of Ma - ry, blame - less mo - ther mild.
 4 like those in heaven, shall call you Lord.
 5 from all as - saults of our dread foe.
 6 from age to age e - ter - nal - ly.

Words: Latin, 9th cent.; ver. *Hymnal 1940*, alt. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Conditor alme siderum*, plainsong, Mode 4; acc. Bruce Neswick (b. 1956) Copyright ©1984, Bruce Neswick. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

Presider

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

People

And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

Presider O perfect Word!

Text by Thomas Merton

All **Whose Name is "Savior,"
Whom we desire to hold;
Burn in our hearts, burn in our living marrow, own our being.
Hide us and heal us in the embrace of Your delight,
Whose admirable might
Sings in the furnace of the Triple Glory!**

Kyrie

Plainsong Mode I, *Missa Marialis*

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

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

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

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

on us. Lord, have mer - cy

up - on us. Lord,

have mer - cy up - on us.

Presider The Lord be with you.
People **And also with you.**
Presider Let us pray.

Gracious God, you called your monk Thomas Merton to proclaim your justice out of silence, and moved him in his contemplative writings to perceive and value Christ at work in the faith of others: Keep us, like him, steadfast in the knowledge and love of Jesus Christ; who with you and the Holy Spirit, lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Readings

 *All sit to hear selected writings of Thomas Merton.*

*When the singing bowl sounds,
all join in a monotone chant of the First Canticle.*

First Canticle

Thomas Merton

CANTOR: O night of admiration, full of choirs,

**ALL: O night of deepest praise,
And darkness full of sweet delight!
What secret and intrepid Visitor
Has come to raise us from the dead?
He softly springs the locks of time, our sepulcher,
In the foretold encounter.**

*The Readings continue.
When the singing bowl sounds again,
all join in a monotone chant of the Second Canticle (remain seated).*

Second Canticle

Thomas Merton

CANTOR: Sophia is the mercy of God in us.

**ALL: She is the tenderness with which the infinitely mysterious power of pardon
turns the darkness of our sins into the light of grace.
She is the inexhaustible fountain of kindness,
and would almost seem to be, in herself, all mercy.
So she does in us a greater work than that of Creation:
the work of new being in grace, the work of pardon,
the work of transformation from brightness to brightness.
She is in us the yielding and tender counterpart
of power, justice and creative dynamism
within the divine dance, the *perchoreisis* of the holy and undivided Trinity.**

 *After the Epistle, all stand as able to sing the hymn of another poet/priest, George Herbert.*

Sequence hymn *Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life*



1 Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life: such a
 2 Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength: such a
 3 Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart: such a



way as gives us breath; such a truth as ends all
 light as shows a feast; such a feast as mends in
 joy as none can move; such a love as none can



strife; such a life as kill - eth death.
 length; such a strength as makes his guest.
 part; such a heart as joys in love.

Words: George Herbert (1593-1633)

Music: *The Call*, Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958) Copyright ©1911 by Stainer and Bell, Ltd. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

Choir, then all several times:



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Leo Sowerby

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

People **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

The Holy Gospel

John 12:27-36

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.

People **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

 *The People sit.*

Reflection and Silence

 *After the silence, all stand as able.*

Deacon God is a being to be known, not a problem to be solved.

All **Contemplation is not trance or ecstasy
not emotional fire and sweetness that comes with religious exaltation,
not enthusiasm, not the sense of being "seized" by an elemental force
and swept into liberation by mystical frenzy.
Contemplation is no pain-killer.**

**In the end the contemplative suffers the anguish of realizing
that *he no longer knows what God is,*
that *she no longer knows what God is;*
this is a great gain
because "God is not a what,"
not a "thing."**

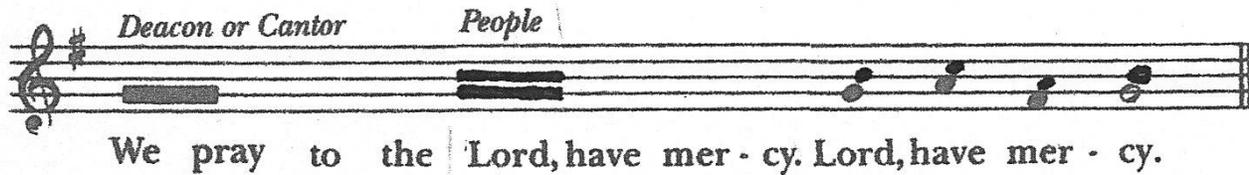
**There is "no such thing" as God
because God is neither a "what" or a "thing"
but a pure "Who,"
the "Thou" before whom our inmost "I" springs into awareness.**

**I need to be led by you.
I need my heart to be moved by you.
I need my soul to be made clean by your prayer.
I need my will to be made strong by you.
I need the world to be saved and changed by you.
I need you for all those who suffer, who are in prison, in danger, in sorrow.
I need you for all the broken people.
I need your healing hand to work always in my life.
I need you to make me, as you made your Son, a healer, a comforter, a savior.
I need you to name the dead.
I need you to help the dying cross their particular rivers.
I need you for myself whether I live or die.
It is necessary. Amen**

The Prayers of the People

Deacon Let us pray, united in faith and hope,
 surrendering ourselves to the truth and mercy of God in our lives.

The response is sung after each petition.



In the company of the saints of every age, who have baked the bread of faith and allured us with the aroma of Christ, we pray to the **Lord have mercy, Lord have mercy.**

For the unity and faithful witness of God's friends throughout the world, that the Church may embody hope and liberation for the whole human family, we pray to the ...

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 the...

For all those whose commitment to Christ has brought them into conflict with the powers of violence and oppression, that they may have the courage to endure, we pray to the...

For all the living saints who care for the poor and the weak, tend the sick and dying, stand up for peace and justice, and consecrate their lives to the way of Jesus, we pray to the ...

For all artists, writers and creatives who touch our hearts and minds, opening our eyes to life in all its brokenness and beauty, that they may ever be encouraged and guided by you, we pray ...

For all mystics and theologians, who illuminate and inspire our own journey into God, we pray to the ...

For all who suffer in body, mind or spirit, that they may find confidence and hope in their troubles; and for all who minister to them in the name of the healing Christ, we pray to the ...

For the absolution and remission of all our sins and offences, things done and left undone, we pray to the ...

That we may respect all created beings, live gently on the earth, and discern the divine beauty in all things visible and invisible, we pray to the ...

That the Spirit may transform us into our full humanity in Christ, free at last to love and serve and risk everything for the sake of the Kingdom, we pray to the ...

For all the faithful departed, especially Thomas Merton and Karl Barth, that they may rejoice with all your saints in the communion of your everlasting presence, we pray to the ...

Rejoicing in communion with the ever-blessed Mary the God bearer, blessed Barnabas, Thomas Merton, Karl Barth, and those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored, we praise you,

Love 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 Christ. **Amen.**

The Peace

That tonight we may hear the word of peace spoken clearly and gently among us, let us pass the sign of Christ's peace in attentive silence, saying only the words, "The Peace of Christ" or the response, "and also with you." And we invite you make a bow before you touch or embrace, to acknowledge the sacred presence in one another.

Tonight's offering will go to the Fellowship of Reconciliation (FOR), the largest and oldest peace and justice organization in the United States. Through advocacy, education, training and support, this faith-based network fosters non-violent approaches to the social challenges of inequity, conflict and violence. Thomas Merton, who was passionate for a more peaceful world, was a member of FOR.

 *The People sit during the hymn until the thurifer bids all to rise.*

Hymn (sung by all)

Now, my tongue, the mystery telling



1 Now, my tongue, the mys - tery tell - ing of the glo - rious
 2 Given for us, and con - de - scend - ing to be born for
 3 That last night at sup - per ly - ing mid the twelve, his
 4 Word made flesh, the bread he tak - eth, by his word his
 *5 There - fore we, be - fore him bend - ing, this great Sac - ra -
 *6 Glo - ry let us give and bless - ing to the Fa - ther



1 Bo - dy sing, and the Blood, all price ex - cell - ing,
 2 us be - low, he with us in con - verse blend - ing
 3 cho - sen band, Je - sus, with the Law com - ply - ing,
 4 Flesh to be; wine his sa - cred Blood he mak - eth,
 5 ment re - vere; types and sha - dows have their end - ing,
 6 and the Son, hon - or, thanks, and praise ad - dress - ing,

1 which the Gen - tiles' Lord and King, once on earth a -
 2 dwelt, the seed of truth to sow, till he closed with
 3 keeps the feast its rites de - mand; then, more pre - cious
 4 though the sens - es fail to see; faith a - lone the
 5 for the new - er rite is here; faith, our out - ward
 6 while e - ter - nal a - ges run; ev - er too his

1 mong us dwell - ing, shed for this world's ran - som - ing.
 2 won - drous end - ing his most pa - tient life of woe.
 3 food sup - ply - ing, gives him - self with his own hand.
 4 true heart wak - eth to be - hold the mys - ter - y.
 5 sense be - friend - ing, makes our in - ward vi - sion clear.
 6 love con - fess - ing who from both with both is One.

Words: Att. Thomas Aquinas (1225?-1274); ver. *Hymnal 1940*, rev. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Pange lingua*, plainsong, Mode 3, *Zisterzienser Hymnar*; 14th cent.; acc. Jackson Hill (b. 1941) Copyright ©1984, Jackson Hill. All rights reserved. Used with permission.

The Great Thanksgiving

All stand as able

Celebrant *People*

The Lord be with you. And al - so with you.

Celebrant *People*

Lift up your hearts. We lift them to the Lord.

Celebrant

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

The Presider sings the Preface, then all join in the Sanctus.

Sanctus

New Plainsong, David Hurd

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, hea - ven and
earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Bless - ed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Presider continues.

At the Acclamation, all sing:

Christ has died, Christ is ri - sen, Christ will come a - gain

The Lord's Prayer

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 - pas - ses,
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 power,
and the glo - ry, for ev - er and ev - er. A - men.

Acclamation after the breaking of the bread

David Hurd

All sing:

This setting is not used in Lent.

Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.
Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us;
there - fore let us keep the feast.
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

The Invitation to Communion

Presider The gifts of God for the People of God.

 Communion of the People

This is Jesus' table. All find a welcome invitation to share in the bread and wine of Holy Communion. If you prefer to receive a blessing (or not to receive wine), place your arms across your chest as a sign.

Communion antiphon

Ego sum vitis vera et vos palmites, qui manet in me, et ego in eo, hic fert fructum multum, alleluia, alleluia.

I am the true vine, and you are the branches; whoever abides in me, and I in them, will bear much fruit, alleluia, alleluia.

Organ Voluntary



After Communion, all stand as able to pray together.

Presider Let us pray.

People **Holy and gracious God:
Let our eyes see nothing in the world but Your glory,
and let our hands touch nothing that is not for Your service.
Let our tongues taste no bread that does not strengthen us
to praise Your great mercy.
We will hear your Voice and we will hear all harmonies You have created,
singing Your hymns to find joy in giving You glory,
through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.**

The Blessing

Be content that you are not yet a saint, even though you realize that the only thing worth living for is sanctity. Then you will be satisfied to let God lead you to sanctity by a path that you cannot understand. **Amen.**

We exist solely for this, to be the place God has chosen for the divine Presence.
The real value of our own self is the sign of God in our being,
the signature of God upon our being. **Amen**

Our destiny is to go beyond everything, to leave everything,
to press forward to the End and find in the End our Beginning,
the ever-new Beginning that has no end. **Amen.**

And the blessing of the holy and undivided Trinity,
Love who loves us, Word who saves us, Spirit who renews us,
be upon you this night, and evermore. **Amen.**

Closing hymn

Come and Seek the Ways of Wisdom

1 Come and seek the ways of Wis - dom, she who
 2 Lis - ten to the voice of Wis - dom, cry - ing
 3 Sis - ter Wis - dom, come, as - sist us; nur - ture

danced when earth was new. Fol - low close - ly what she
 in the mark - et - place. Hear the Word made flesh a -
 all who seek re - birth. Spi - rit - guide and close com -

teach - es, for her words are right and true. Wis - dom
 mong us, full of glo - ry, truth, and grace. When the
 pan - ion, bring to light our sa - cred worth. Free us

clears the path of jus - tice, show - ing us what love must do.
 word takes root and rip - ens, peace and right - eous - ness em - brace.
 to be - come your peo - ple, ho - ly friends of God and earth.

Final Ending

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Dismissal

Deacon Let us depart in peace.
 People **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

"Sleepers, wake!" A voice astounds us

J. S Bach

Sources for Merton texts

Sink from your shallows: "After the Night Office: Gethsemani Abbey", *Collected Poems* (CP)
This is the land: *Entering the Silence* (473)
O perfect Word: "The Word—A Responsory" (CP)
If we could let go of our own obsession: *New Seeds of Contemplation* (296-97)
God touches us: *New Seeds of Contemplation* (227)
O night of admiration: "The Dark Encounter" (CP)
O tongue of flame: "The Night of Destiny" (CP)
Be still!: "In Silence" (CP)
Our lives, like candles: "The Candlemas Procession" (CP)
Sophia is the mercy of God in us: "Hagia Sophia" III. *High Morning. The Hour of Terce* (CP)
My God, I want to love you: *Entering the Silence* (67)
This little point of nothingness: *Conjectures of a Guilty Bystander* (158)
The corner of Fourth and Walnut: *Conjectures of a Guilty Bystander*
God is a being to be known: q. in Paul Elie, *The Life You Save May Be Your Own: An American Pilgrimage*, 2004 (40)
Contemplation is not trance: *New Seeds of Contemplation* (10-13)
I need to be led by you: *A Search for Solitude* (46-47)
Make ready for the Face: *Dancing in the Water of Life* (250)
Let our eyes see nothing: *New Seeds of Contemplation* (44)
Be content that you are not yet a saint: *New Seeds of Contemplation* (59-60)
We exist solely for this: q. in Elie (403)
Our destiny is to go beyond everything: *Conjectures of a Guilty Bystander* (171-72)

Ministers of the Liturgy

Presider and curator

Rector

Organist and Choirmaster

Song leaders

Crucifer

Torch Bearers

Thurifer

Readers

Altar Guild

Ushers

The Rev. Jim Friedrich

The Rev. Karen Haig

Paul Roy

Barbara Hume, Kathryn Houchen,

Andrew Etherington, Micah Parker

Mary Anne Smith

Peggy Eichenberger, Elaine Percival

Barbara Bolles

Julie Dougherty, Sue Rhodes

Claire Hicks, Jan Peterson

Brian Andvik, Laura Carroll



ADVENT & CHRISTMAS

Advent III

Sunday, December 15th, 8am & 10am

Contemplative Holy Eucharist Service

Sunday, December 15th at 5pm

Do you long for more silence in your worship? Would you like to sink more deeply into chant, reflection, Word and Sacrament? Please join us in the church this Sunday Evening, 12/15 at 5pm for our monthly Contemplative Holy Eucharist. This service is a wonderful way to step away from the busy-ness of the wider world and to steep ourselves in the Holy as we prepare for the week ahead.

A Quiet Christmas Service

Wednesday, December 18th at 7pm

Sometimes the holiday season is not "the most wonderful time of the year," and for those of us experiencing loss or grief, Christmas can be an especially difficult time. The death of a beloved friend or family member, a divorce or job loss, an illness or frightening diagnosis or myriad other personal struggles can make this time of year particularly tender.

At St. Barnabas, we offer a special worship service - A Quiet Christmas Holy Eucharist - for those who find themselves sad, grieving, or in need of any sort of healing during this Christmas season. This service includes gentle carols and communion, is open to everyone and especially meaningful for those who are experiencing loss.

Advent IV

Sunday, December 22nd, 8am & 10am

Community Caroling Party

December 22nd, 3pm-5pm

Accompanied by Paul Roy and Jim Friedrich, we'll sing lots of favorite Christmas songs, and enjoy sweet treats, mulled wine and a hot cocoa bar! This is an event for the whole community and perfect for families. Don't miss the visit from the BI Fire Dept. Christmas Caroling Truck at 4:45!

Christmas Eve

All services include Christmas Carols and Holy Communion

Family Christmas Service | 4pm

This service begins with the children's pageant! Bring children to the Parlor to be outfitted in costumes -all are welcome!

Festive Christmas Service | 7pm

This service includes special instrumental music.

Candlelight Christmas Eve Service with Incense

Carols at 9:30pm | Service begins at 10pm

Christmas Day

Rite 2 Holy Eucharist at 10am with Christmas Carols

