

The Episcopal Church of St. Thomas the Apostle



Third Sunday of Advent

December 12, 2021

Our Mission Statement

Helping Hands – Healing Hearts

Welcome All

Opening Voluntaries

Benedixisti, Domine, terram tuam by Gerald Near

Creator alme siderum by Marcel Dupré

So now as we Journey, aid our weak endeavor by Marcel Dupré

Conditor alme siderum by Raymond Weidner

The Liturgy of the Word

Entrance Hymn

Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding (Merton) (H 59)

Descant

2 Wak-ened by the sol-emn warn-ing, from earth's bond-age let us rise;
5 Hon-or, glo-ry, might, and bless-ing to the Fa-ther and the Son,

1 Hark! a thrill-ing voice is sound-ing: "Christ is nigh," it seems to say;
2 Wak-ened by the sol-emn warn-ing, from earth's bond-age let us rise;
3 Lo! the Lamb, so long ex-pect-ed, comes with par-don down from heaven;
4 so when next he comes with glo-ry, and the world is wrapped in fear,
5 Hon-or, glo-ry, might, and bless-ing to the Fa-ther and the Son,

2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
5 with the ev - er - last - ing Spi - rit while un - end - ing a - ges run.

1 "Cast a - way the works of dark - ness, O ye child - ren of the day."
2 Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling, shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
3 let us haste, with tears of sor - row, one and all to be for - given;
4 may he with his mer - cy shield us, and with words of love draw near.
5 with the ev - er - last - ing Spi - rit while un - end - ing a - ges run.

Opening Acclamation

The people standing, the Celebrant says

Celebrant Blessed are you, holy and living One.

People You come to your people and set them free.

Collect for Purity

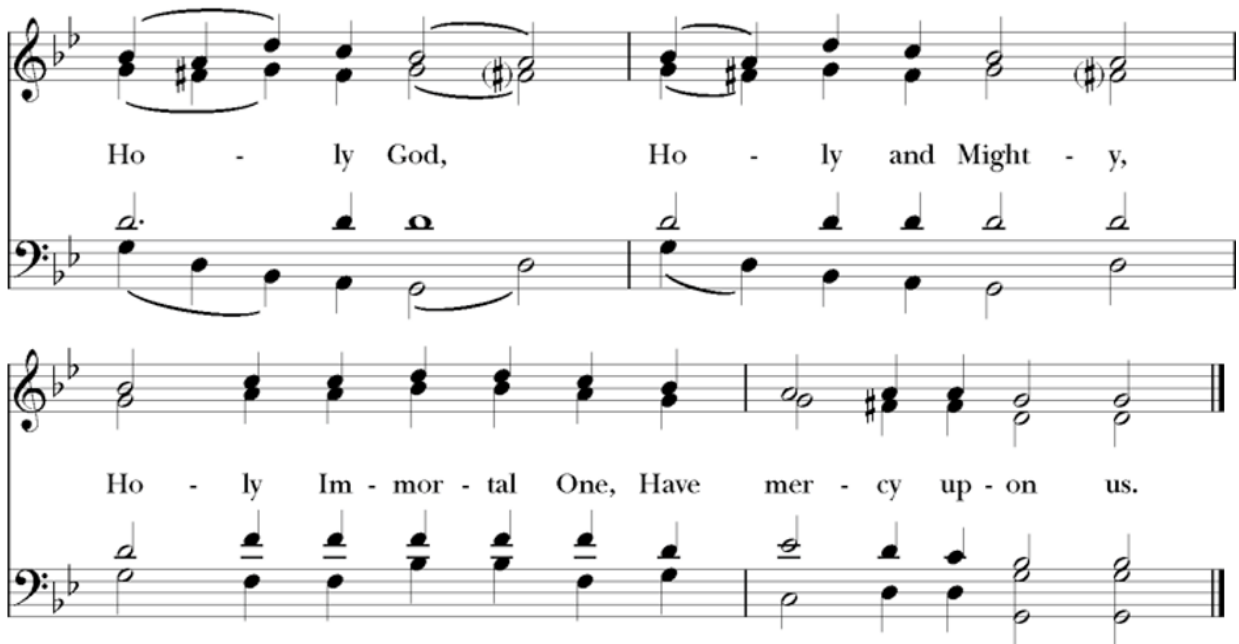
The People standing, Celebrant says

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.*

Trisagion

Holy God (Archangelsky) (S 102)

Sung three times.



Ho - ly God, Ho - ly and Might - y,

Ho - ly Im - mor - tal One, Have mer - cy up - on us.

The Collect of the Day

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Lessons

The people sit.

First Reading: Zephaniah 3:14-20

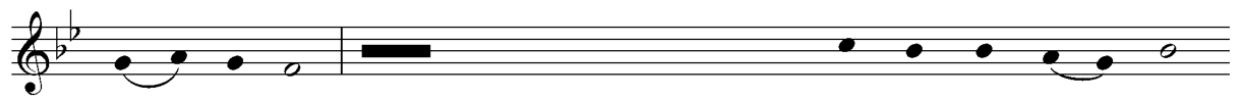
Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

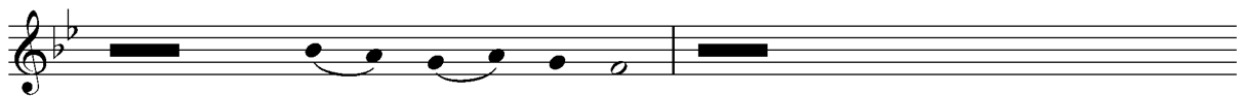
The Response: Canticle 9: The First Song of Isaiah



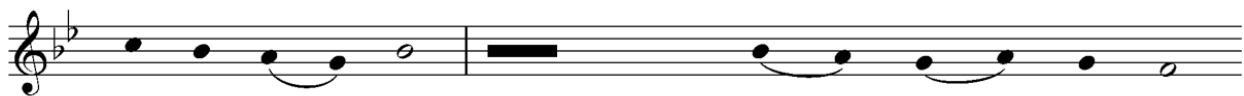
1. Sure - ly, it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and not



be a - fraid. 2. For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure de - fense,



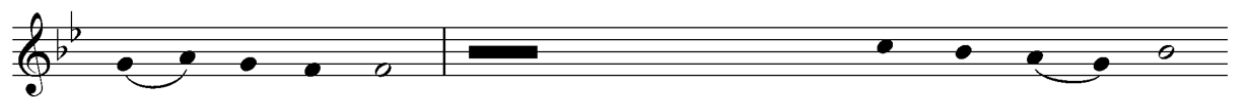
and he will be my Sa - vior. 3. Therefore you shall draw water



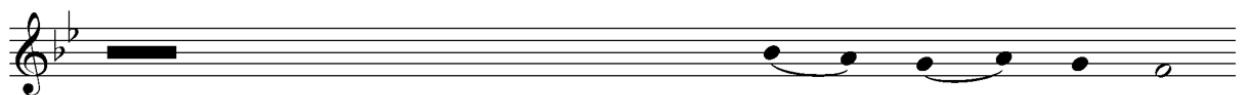
with re - joic - ing from the springs of sal - va - tion.



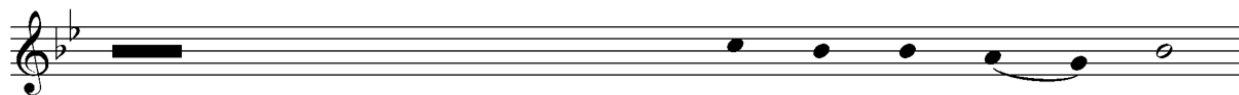
4. And on that day you shall say, Give thanks to the Lord and call



up - on his Name; 5. Make his deeds known a - mong the peo - ples;



See that they remember that his Name is ex - alt - ed.



6. Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things,



and this is known in all the world. 7. Cry aloud, inhabitants of



Zi - on, ring out your joy, for the great one in the



midst of you is the Holy One of Is - ra - el. [Ant.]

Second Reading: Philippians 4:4-7

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

All stand.

Sequence Hymn

Once he came in blessing (Gottes Sohn ist kommen) (H 53)



1 Once he came in bless - ing, all our ills re - dress - ing;
2 Still he comes with - in us, still his voice would win us
3 Thus, if thou canst name him, not a - shamed to claim him,
4 One who thus en - dur - eth bright re - ward se - cur - eth.



came in like-ness low - ly, Son of God most ho - ly;
from the sins that hurt us, would to Truth con - vert us:
but wilt trust him bold - ly nor dost love him cold - ly,
Come, then, O Lord Je - sus, from our sins re - lease us;



bore the cross to save us, hope and free - dom gave us.
not in tor - ment hold us, but in love en - fold us.
he will then re - ceive thee, heal thee, and for - give thee.
let us here con - fess thee till in heaven we bless thee.

The Gospel: Luke 3:7-18

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.

People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

The Rev. Christopher Blake Thomas

Silence may be kept.

The Creed

All stand.

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
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.

The Prayers of the People

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Surely, it is God who saves us; therefore, we joyfully pray to the Lord, “Oh God of our salvation: *we give you thanks and praise.*”

Though hindered by our sins and in need of your bountiful grace and mercy, you never leave us. You are ever in our midst. Renew your Church in love.

(Silence)

V: Oh God of our salvation:

R: We give you thanks and praise.

Make your deeds known among the people, O God. Save the lame; gather the outcast. May the exiles know home and all people know your peace.

(Silence)

V: Oh God of our salvation:

R: We give you thanks and praise.

May your springs of salvation renew the earth. Heal our planet and restore in us a sense of responsibility and gratitude.

(Silence)

V: Oh God of our salvation:

R: We give you thanks and praise.

Merciful God, in this month of great excess and consumerism, call the financial and business communities to act justly and generously. Grant that those without coats be clothed and those without food be fed.

(Silence)

V: Of God of our salvation:

R: *We give you thanks and praise.*

O God, you have done great things. With thankful hearts we pray to you for those burdened by shame, grief, or weakness. Be for them a stronghold and a sure defense.

V: Oh God of our salvation:

R: *We give you thanks and praise.*

God our salvation, gather us, with all those who have died, into your sacred heart. Grant us to sing your praises for all eternity.

(Silence)

V: Of God of our salvation:

R: *We give you thanks and praise.*

(The congregation is invited to add their prayers, supplication, and thanksgivings, either silently or aloud.)

Silence may be kept.

Confession of Sin

The Celebrant says

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

Celebrant and People

Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;

we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us;
that we may delight in your will,
and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Priest stands and says

Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. *Amen.*

The Peace

All stand.

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People And also with you.

Then the Ministers and the People may greet one another in the name of the Lord.

Announcements & Blessings

Birthday Prayer

Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their heart may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their life; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Please refer to the Doubter for current Birthdays.

Anniversary Prayer

Gracious God, we ask your blessing upon these your servants. Lead them further in companionship with each other and with you. Give them grace to live together in love and fidelity, with care for one another. Strengthen them all their days, and finally bring them to that holy table where, with those they love, they will feast for ever in their heavenly home; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

The Holy Communion

Offertory Anthem

The Great Thanksgiving

Sursum Corda

The People remain standing.

Celebrant The Lord be with you.
People And also with you.
Celebrant Lift up your hearts.
People We lift them to the Lord.
Celebrant Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
People It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Sanctus

Holy, holy, holy (Schubert/Proulx) (S 130)

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and
might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,

The image shows a musical score for the Sanctus. It consists of two systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The first system has the lyrics 'Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and'. The second system has the lyrics 'might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,'. The piano accompaniment is in a simple, homophonic style, supporting the vocal line.

God of power and might, hea-ven and earth are

full, full of your glo-ry. Ho-

san-na in the high-est. 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The image shows a musical score for a hymn. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the treble staff. The music ends with a double bar line and repeat dots.

Celebrant

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrant and People

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

The Lord's Prayer

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

People and Celebrant

Our Father in heaven,

hallowed be your Name,

your kingdom come,

your will be done, on earth as in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

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 kingdom, the power,

and the glory are yours,

now and forever. Amen.

The Breaking of the Bread

Fraction Anthem

Jesus, Lamb of God (Schubert/Proulx) (S 164)

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff contains a melody with lyrics underneath. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The key signature has one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 4/4. The lyrics are: "Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us."

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

The second system of musical notation continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us."

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:

The third system of musical notation continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:"

give us your peace, give us your peace.

The fourth system of musical notation concludes the piece. The lyrics are: "give us your peace, give us your peace."

Healing Prayer available at the rear of the Nave.

Communion Hymn

Creator of the stars of night (Conditor alme siderum) (H 60)



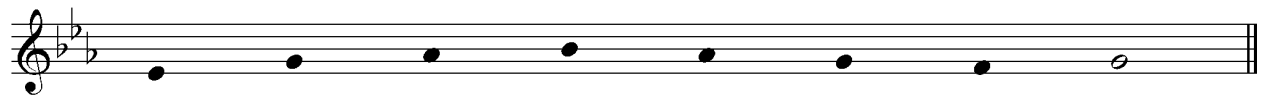
1 Cre - a - tor of the stars of night,
2 In sor - row that the an - cient curse
3 When this old world drew on toward night,
4 At your great Name, O Je - sus, now
5 Come in your ho - ly might, we pray,
* 6 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son,



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.

Charge to Eucharistic Visitors

Celebrant In the Name of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those whom you visit may share with us in the communion of Christ's Body and Blood.

People We who are many are one Body, because we all share one bread, one cup.

Postcommunion Prayer

All standing.

Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.
Send us now into the world in peace,
and grant us strength and courage
to love and serve you
with gladness and singleness of heart;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Blessing

May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin. *Amen.*

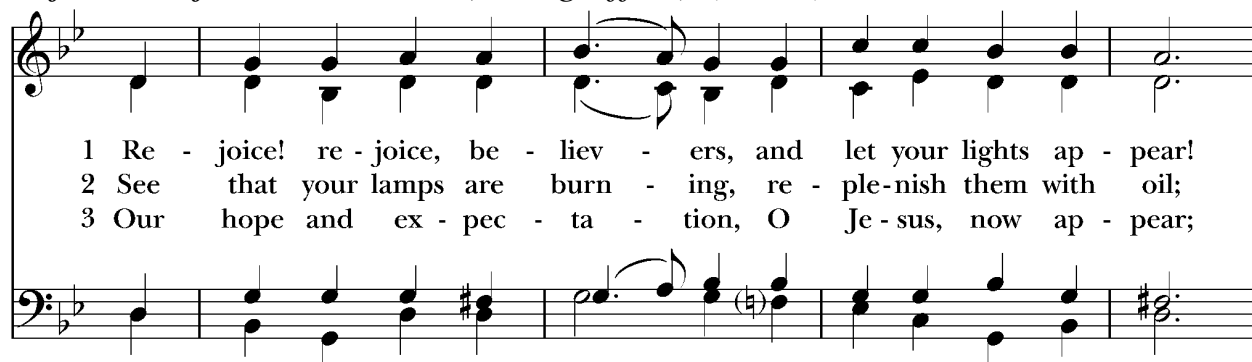
May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love. *Amen.*

May you, who rejoice in the first Advent of our Redeemer, at his second Advent be rewarded with unending life. *Amen.*

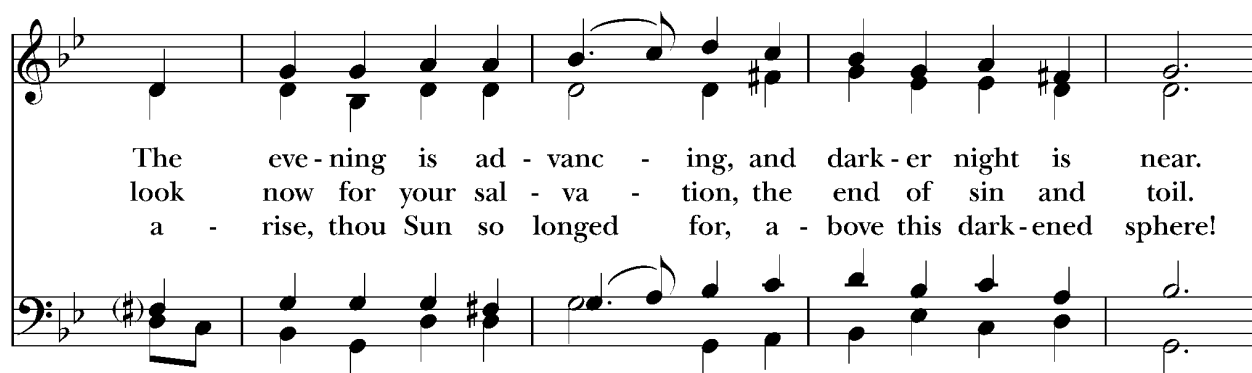
And the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. *Amen.*

Closing Hymn

Rejoice! rejoice, believers (Llangloffan) (H 68)



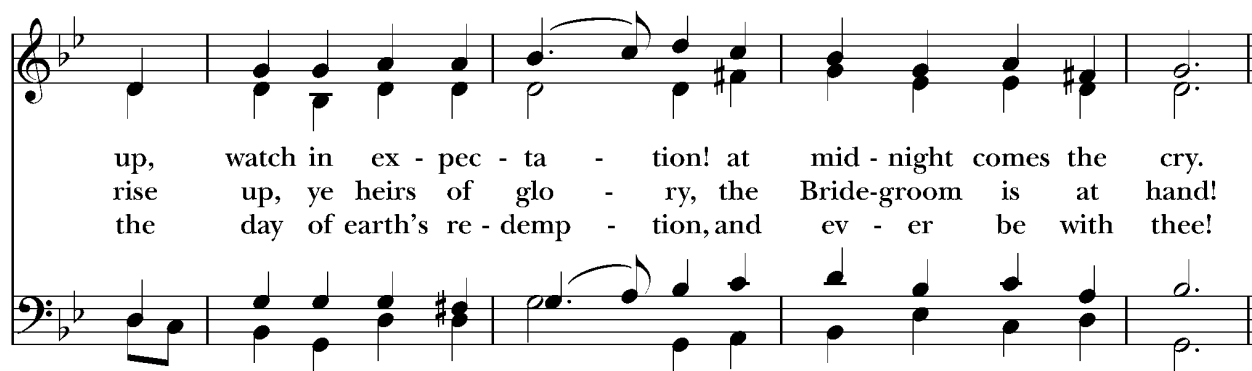
1 Re - joice! re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear!
2 See that your lamps are burn - ing, re - ple-nish them with oil;
3 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;



The eve-ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark-er night is near.
look now for your sal - va - tion, the end of sin and toil.
a - rise, thou Sun so longed for, a - bove this dark-ened sphere!



The Bride-groom is a - ris - ing, and soon he will draw nigh;
The mar - riage - feast is wait - ing, the gates wide o - pen stand;
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see



up, watch in ex - pec - ta - tion! at mid - night comes the cry.
rise up, ye heirs of glo - ry, the Bride-groom is at hand!
the day of earth's re - demp - tion, and ev - er be with thee!

Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.

People Thanks be to God.

Closing Voluntary

Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding arr. by Malcolm Archer

Copyright Acknowledgments:

Opening Voluntaries:

Near: Offertory for Advent 3; Ps. 84:2 from *A Gregorian Liturgical Year* ©2000 by Aureole Editions.

Dupré: *Creator alme siderum*. ©1942 by S. Bornemann. ©1950 The H.W. Gray Co. Renewed 1970 Belwin Mills Publishing. *So now as we Journey, aid our weak endeavor*. ©1920 by Marcel Dupré. Public domain. Weidner:

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Hark! a thrilling voice is sounding. Words: Latin, ca. 6th cent.; tr. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1861, alt. Music: Merton, William Henry Monk (1823-1889); desc. Alan Gray (1855-1935)

Trisagion. Music: Ver. *Hymnal 1982*, after Alexander Archangelsky (1846-1924) Public domain.

The Response. Cantic 9. Music: Plainsong, Tone 3; adapt. Bruce E. Ford (b. 1947); acc. Bruce Neswick (b. 1956)

Once he came in blessing. Words: Jan Roh (1485?-1547); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), alt. Music: *Gottes Sohn ist kommen*, melody Michael Weisse (d. 1534); harm. Jack W. Burnam (b. 1946)

Sanctus. Music: From *Deutsche Messe*, Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937)

Fraction Anthem. Music: From *Deutsche Messe*; Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937)

Creator of the stars of night. Words: Latin, 9th cent.; ver. *Hymnal 1940*, alt.

Music: *Conditio alme siderum*, plainsong, Mode 4; acc. Bruce Neswick (b. 1956)

Rejoice! rejoice, believers. Words: Laurentius Laurenti (1660-1722); tr. Sarah B. Findlater (1823-1907),

alt. Music: *Llangloffan*, melody from *Hymnau a Thonau er Gwasanaeth yr Eglwys yng Nghymru*, 1865

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Parish Office hours are 8:00 am through 2:00 pm

Tuesdays through Fridays

214-352-0410

Emergency contact: The Rev. Christopher Blake Thomas 214-352-0410 ext. 6

(Please leave message with name, call back number, and brief explanation of urgency. Fr. Christopher will receive an urgent message to call back as soon as possible.

**The Most Rev. Michael Curry, Presiding Bishop
The Right Rev. G. Wayne Smith, Bishop of Oversight (Missouri Diocese)
The Right Rev. George R. Sumner, Bishop of Dallas
The Right Rev. Michael Smith, Assistant Bishop of Dallas**

The Rev. Christopher Blake Thomas, Rector	christopher@thedoubter.org
The Rev. Stephen J. Waller, Rector Emeritus	doubtortom@thedoubter.org
Dr. Stephen V. Sprinkle, Theologian-in-Residence	steve@thedoubter.org
Mr. Allen M. Junek, Seminarian-in-Residence	allen@thedoubter.org
Mr. Lee Corbin, Organist Choirmaster	music@thedoubter.org
Mr. David Aston, Assistant Organist	daston1227@aol.com
Ms. Pam Liles, Parish Administrator	pam@thedoubter.org
Ms. Laura Giffin, Controller	laura@thedoubter.org
Ms. Annelies Moeser	annelies@thedoubter.org

The Episcopal Church of St. Thomas the Apostle

6525 Inwood Road, Dallas, TX 75209 214-352-0410

www.thedoubter.org

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