

The Episcopal Church of St. Thomas the Apostle



Fourth Sunday of Advent

December 19, 2021

Our Mission Statement

Helping Hands – Healing Hearts

Welcome All

Opening Voluntaries

Savior of the nations, come! Chorale Preludes by Andreas Nikolau Vetter, Paul Manz, Max Reger, and Gerald Near

The Liturgy of the Word

Entrance Hymn

O come, O come, Emmanuel (Veni, veni, Emmanuel) H 56



(Dec. 23) 1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som
(Dec. 17) 2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest
(Dec. 18) 3 O come, O come, thou Lord of might, who to thy
(Dec. 19) 4 O come, thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, free them from



1 cap - tive Is - ra - el, that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile
2 all things might - i - ly; to us the path of know - ledge
3 tribes on Si - nai's height in an - cient times didst give the
4 Sa - tan's ty - ran - ny that trust thy might - y power to



1 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear.
2 show, and teach us in her ways to go.
3 law, in cloud, and ma - jes - ty, and awe.
4 save, and give them vic - tory o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice!



Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

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.

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

The Lessons

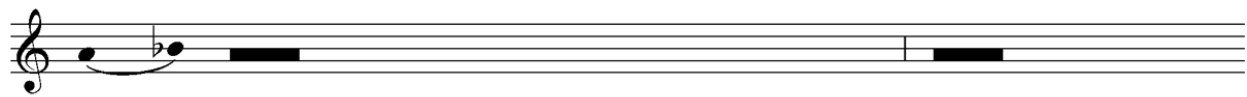
The people sit.

First Reading: Micah 5:2-5a

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

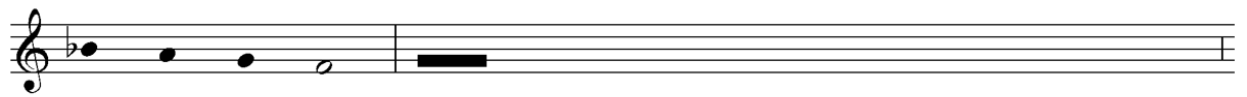
The Response: *Canticle 15*



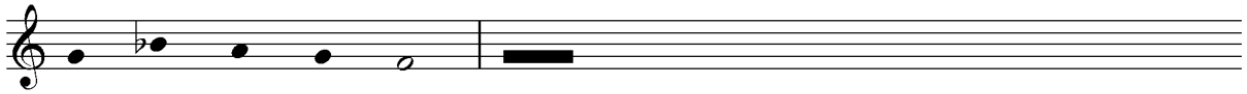
1. My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices



low - ly ser - vant. 2. From this day all generations will



call me bless - ed: the Almighty has done great things for me,



in God my Sav - ior; for he has looked with favor on his



and ho - ly is his Name. 3. He has mercy on those who fear him




in every gen - er - a - tion. 4. He has shown the strength of his arm,



he has scattered the proud in their con - ceit. 5. He has cast down



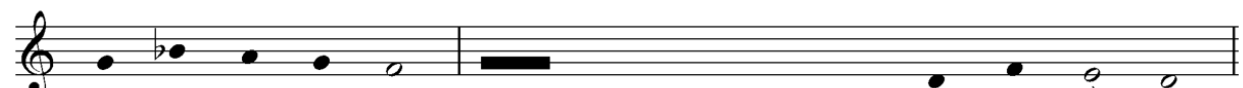
the might - y from their thrones, and has lifted up the low - ly.



emp - ty. 7. He has come to the help of his ser - vant Is - ra - el,



for he has remembered his promise of mer - cy, 8. The promise he



made to our fa - thers, to Abraham and his children for ev - er. [Ant.]

Second Reading: Hebrews 10:5-10

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

All stand.

Sequence Hymn

The angel Gabriel from heaven came (Gabriel's Message) H 265

The musical score is written for four voices (Soprano, Alto, Tenor, Bass) and piano accompaniment. It consists of three systems of music. Each system has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The music is in a simple, homophonic style.

1 The an - gel Ga - bri - el from hea - ven came,
2 "For know a bless - ed Mo - ther thou shalt be,
3 Then gen - tle Ma - ry meek - ly bowed her head,
4 Of her, Em - man - u - el, the Christ, was born

his wings as drift - ed snow, his eyes as flame;
all gen - er - a - tions laud and hon - or thee,
"To me be as it pleas - eth God," she said,
in Beth - le - hem, all on a Christ - mas morn,

"All hail," said he, "thou low - ly maid - en Ma - ry,
thy Son shall be Em - man - u - el, by seers fore - told,
"my soul shall laud and mag - ni - fy his ho - ly Name."
and Chris - tian folk through - out the world will ev - er say—

most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!
 most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!
 Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!
 "Most high - ly fa - vored la - dy," Glo - ri - a!

The Gospel: Luke 1:39-55

Celebrant The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The Sermon

Dr. Stephen V. Sprinkle

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

The Mighty One has done great things for us. And so we appeal to God
once again, praying, “Stir up your strength, O Lord; *and come to help
us.*”

Prepare in us a mansion for yourself, O Christ.

(Silence)

V: Stir up your strength, O Lord;

R: *And come to help us.*

Restore us, O God of hosts. May we know security. May we know
peace. May we know the benefits of the reign of your Christ.

(Silence)

V: Stir up your strength, O Lord;

R: *And come to help us.*

Show the strength of your arm, O God: lift up the lowly. Fill the hungry with good things. Look on your children with favor.

(Silence)

V: Stir up your strength, O Lord;

R: *And come to help us.*

Have mercy on all captives and prisoners, O God. Remember them and come to their aid. Fill our hearts with mercy. May we learn to forgive even as you forgive us.

(Silence)

V: Stir up your strength, O Lord;

R: *And come to help us.*

Hear the prayers of your people, O God of hosts. May those who have fed on the bread of tears, feed instead on your strength, O Lord. Show them the light of your countenance and be their salvation.

(Silence)

V: Stir up your strength, O Lord;

R: *And come to help us.*

Great Shepherd, gather your flock into your eternal kingdom. Bless the dying, embrace the dead, and comfort those who mourn.

(Silence)

R: Stir up your strength, O Lord;

V: *And come to help us.*

(The congregation may add their prayers, supplications, and thanksgiving.)

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

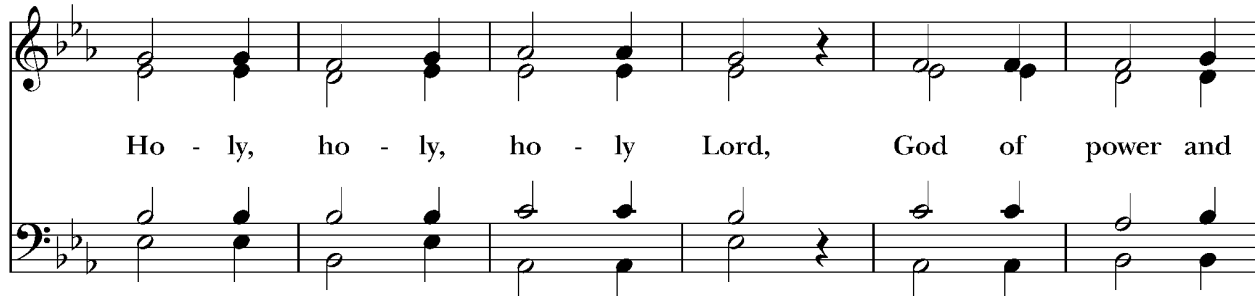
Sursum Corda

The People remain standing.

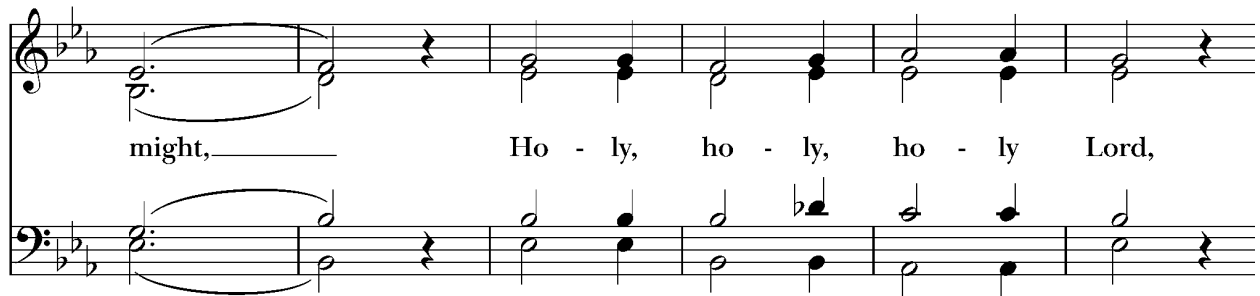
<i>Celebrant</i>	The Lord be with you.
<i>People</i>	And also with you.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Lift up your hearts.
<i>People</i>	We lift them to the Lord.
<i>Celebrant</i>	Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.
<i>People</i>	It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Sanctus

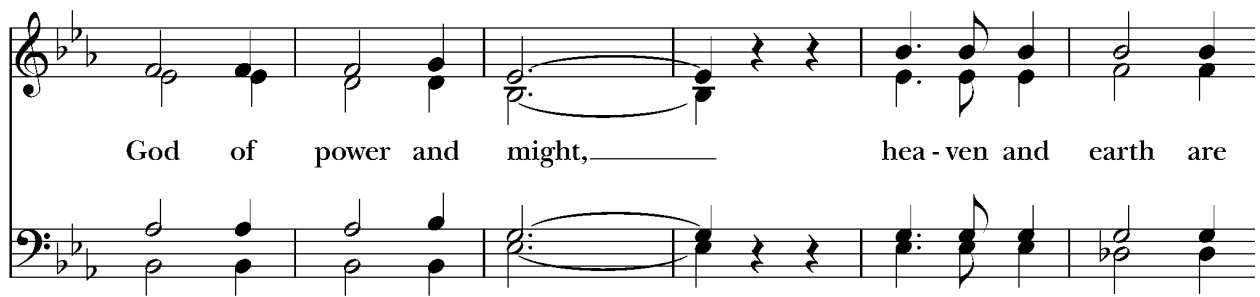
Holy, holy, holy (Schubert/Proulx) (S 130)



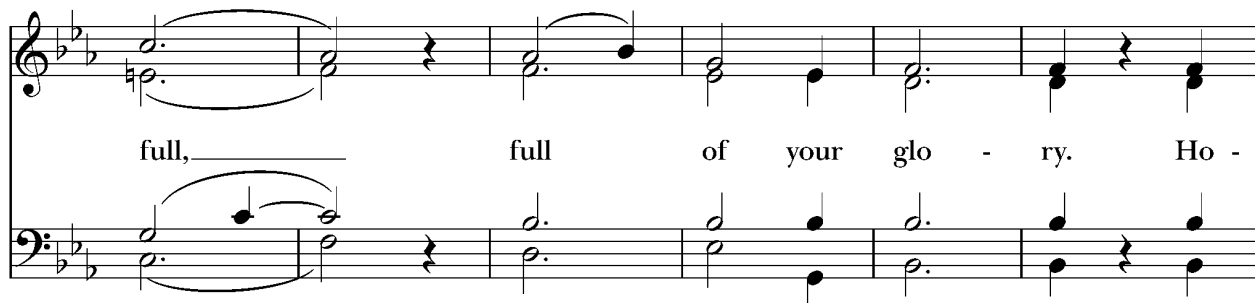
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and



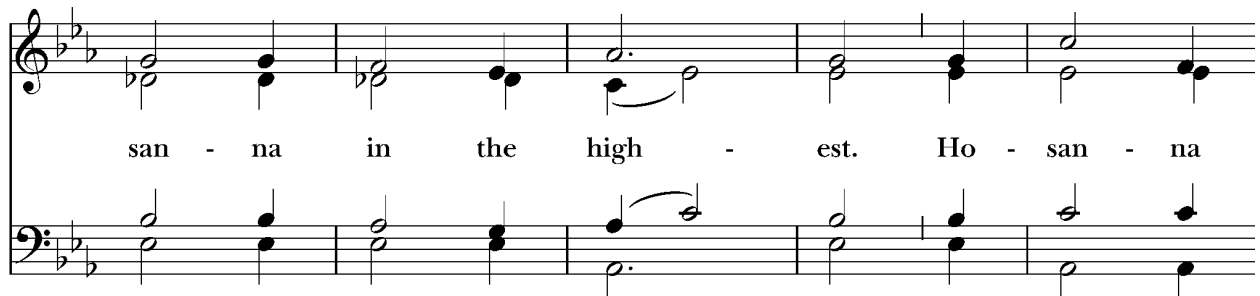
might, Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,



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.

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 clef staff and a bass clef staff, both in the key of D major. The treble staff contains the vocal melody with lyrics underneath. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. 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 piece with the same instrumental 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 concludes the piece. The lyrics are: "Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:"

give us your peace, give us your peace.

The image shows a musical score for a prayer. It consists of two staves: a treble clef staff on top and a bass clef staff on the bottom. The key signature is one sharp (F#). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics 'give us your peace, give us your peace.' are written below the treble staff. The music is in a simple, hymn-like style with a steady rhythm.

Healing Prayer available at the rear of the Nave.

Communion Hymn

Virgin-born, we bow before thee (H 258)

1 Vir - gin - born, we bow be - fore thee: bless - ed was the
2 Bless - ed she by all cre - a - tion, who brought forth the

womb that bore thee; — Ma - ry, Mo - ther meek and mild, —
world's sal - va - tion, and bless - ed they, for ev - er blest, who

bless - ed was she in her child. Bless - ed was the breast that fed thee;
love thee most and serve thee best. Vir - gin - born, we bow be - fore thee;

bless - ed was the hand that led thee; bless - ed was the
bless - ed was the womb that bore thee; Ma - ry, Mo - ther

par - ent's eye that watched thy slum-bering in - fan - cy.
meek and mild, ——— bless - ed was she in her Child.

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.*

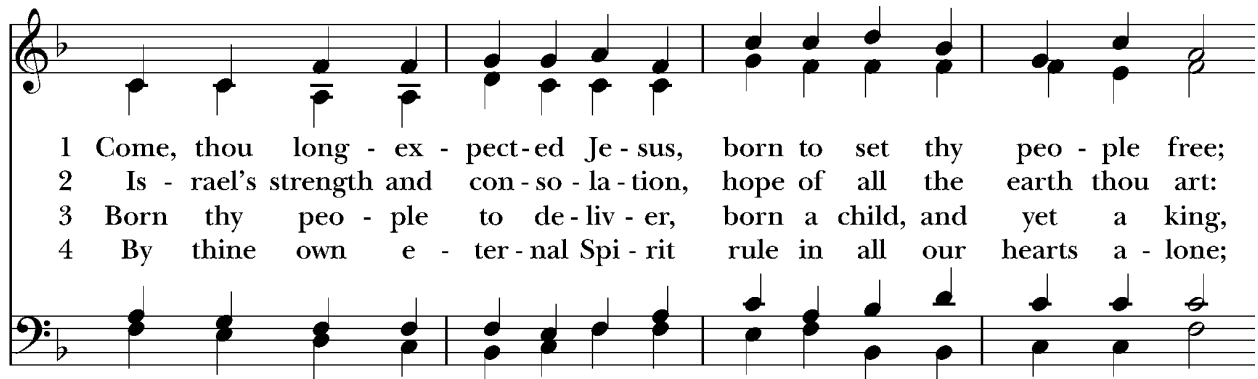
May he whose second Coming in power and great glory we await, make you steadfast in faith, joyful in hope, and constant in love. *Amen.*

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

Come, thou long-expected Jesus(Stuttgart) (H 66)



1 Come, thou long - ex - spect-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 - liv - er, 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 - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
born to reign in us for ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.
by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Dismissal

Celebrant Let us go forth in the name of Christ.
People Thanks be to God.

Closing Voluntary

Savior of the nations, come! By J. S. Bach

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O come, O come Emmanuel. Words: Latin, ca. 9th cent.; ver. *Hymnal 1940*, alt. Music: *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*, plainsong, Mode 1, Processionale, 15th cent.; adapt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890); acc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937) Trisagion. Music: Ver. *Hymnal 1982*, after Alexander Archangelsky (1846-1924) Public domain.

The Response. Music: Plainsong, Tonus Peregrinus; adapt. Bruce E. Ford (b. 1947); acc. Alec Wyton (b. 1921)

The angel Gabriel from heaven came Words: Basque carol; para. Sabine Baring-Gould (1834-1924) Music: *Gabriel's Message*, Basque carol; harm. Edgar Pettman (1865-1943)

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) *Virgin-born, we bow before thee.* Words: Reginald Heber (1783-1826) Music: *Psalm 86*, Claude Goudimel (1514-1572), alt.

Come, thou long expected Jesus. Words: Charles Wesley (1707-1788) Music: *Stuttgart*, melody from *Psalmodia Sacra, oder Andächtige und Schöne Gesänge*, 1715; adapt. and harm. William Henry Havergal (1793-1870), alt. Public domain.

Closing Voluntary. BWV599. Public domain.

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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**

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