



Christ Church Cathedral
Catedral Iglesia de Cristo
Springfield, Massachusetts



**THE HOLY EUCHARIST FOR
THE FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
December 22, 2024, 10 a.m.**



“At this Christmas when Christ comes, will He find a warm heart? Mark the season of Advent by loving and serving the others with God’s own love and concern.”

– Mother Teresa, Love: A Fruit Always in Season

Christ Church Cathedral broadcasts and shares images and video taken at our services through social media. If you prefer not to have your image shared, please let the Clergy or the Ushers know.

Welcome to Christ Church Cathedral. We are the Cathedral for the Diocese of Western Massachusetts, and an active community serving greater Springfield. It is a blessing to have you with us today. If you are new here, we encourage you to fill out a Visitor's Card to receive more information. Our clergy and leaders would love to make a connection with you. Christ Church Cathedral is an open and inclusive community which invites all people to the incredible love of God, with no barriers of race, culture or sexual orientation. You are loved and welcomed here at Christ Church Cathedral.

During the week, please pray for those whom Christ's healing power has been requested:

Karen and Bob Soderstrom, Jim McBride, The Reverend Jerry True, Monique Ray Burwell, The Reverend Tom A. Callard, Milagros Lopez, Charlie Murrin and his family, Robert Jewell, Sr. and his family, Charlotte Carrington, Anne Westcott, Todd Shepard, Beverly Rourke, Ann Lincoln, Joyce Howard, David and Kathy Johnston, Karen and Rich Authier, Louise Amerman, Eleanor Parke, Blaise and her family.

Please note that the Prayer List will be reset every 4 weeks, unless otherwise requested in the Main Office!

THE OPENING VOLUNTARY

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Presenter A Today is the fourth Sunday of Advent. We light all the candles around the Advent Wreath, for Hope, Peace, Joy, and finally today we light the candle for Love.

Presenter B Jesus told his disciples: I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.

Presenter A Jesus asks a lot of us, but this commandment to love is unique. It is the first and the greatest of all the commandments.

Presenter B We light this candle today knowing that there is still darkness out there. There are still places with little light and with too little love.

Presenter A We light this candle today for those who do not know love. Those who have lost love, who have never had it, and those who struggle to feel it for themselves.

Presenter B We light this candle today to remind ourselves, as it says in First John, "You are loved."

Presenter A The God of love sent Jesus Christ to the world to make that love real and make it known in the world. May you know that love this Christmas.

Presenter B And may you know this love forever. **Amen.**

LIGHT THE CANDLE - Stephanie Rangel & Yolanda Hernandez

Pre - pare the way of the Lord. Pre - pare the way of the Lord, and
 all peo-ple will see the sal - va - tion of our God. Pre - God.

THE OPENING HYMN - The Hymnal 1982 - #74 Blest Be the King Whose Coming

Descant

3 Blest be the King whose coming is in the name of

1 Blest be the King whose coming is in the name of
 2 Blest be the King whose coming is in the name of
 3 Blest be the King whose coming is in the name of
 4 Blest be the King whose coming is in the name of

God! He on - ly to the hum - ble re - veals the face of

God! For him let doors be o - pened, no hearts a - gainst him
 God! By those who tru - ly lis - ten his voice is tru - ly
 God! He on - ly to the hum - ble re - veals the face of
 God! He of - fers to the bur - dened the rest and grace they

God. All power is his, all glo - ry! All

barred! Not robed in roy - al splen - dor, in
 heard; pi - ty the proud and haugh - ty, who
 God. All power is his, all glo - ry! All
 need. Gen - tle is he and hum - ble! And

things are in his hand, all a - ges and all

power and pomp, comes he; but clad as are the
 have not learned to heed the Christ who is the
 things are in his hand, all a - ges and all
 light his yoke shall be, for he would have us

peo - ples, till time it - self shall end!

poor - est, such his hu - mil - i - ty!
 Prom - ise, who has a - tone - ment made.
 peo - ples, till time it - self shall end!
 bear it so he can make us free!

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THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

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

All And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

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.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

All 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.

Please be seated.

THE FIRST READING: Micah 5:2-5a

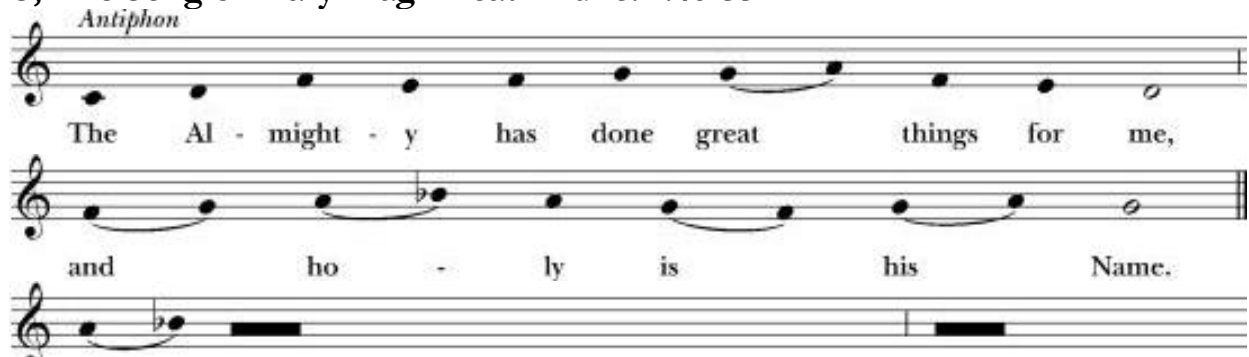
You, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah, who are one of the little clans of Judah, from you shall come forth for me one who is to rule in Israel, whose origin is from of old, from ancient days. Therefore he shall give them up until the time when she who is in labor has brought forth; then the rest of his kindred shall return to the people of Israel. And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the LORD, in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God. And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great to the ends of the earth; and he shall be the one of peace.

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

THE RESPONSE

Canticle 15, The Song of Mary *Magnificat - Luke: 1:46-55*

Antiphon



The Al - might - y has done great things for me,
and ho - ly is his Name.

1. My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices
in God my Sav - ior; for he has looked with favor on his
low - ly ser - vant. 2. From this day all generations will
call me bless - ed: the Almighty has done great things for me,
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.

6. He has filled the hun - gry with good things, and the rich he has sent a - way
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.]
(Gloria Patri may be omitted)
9. Glo - ry to the Fa - ther, and to the Son, and to the Ho - ly Spi - rit:
10. As it was in the be - gin - ning, is now, and will be for ev - er. A - men. [Ant.]

THE SECOND READING: Hebrews 10:5-10

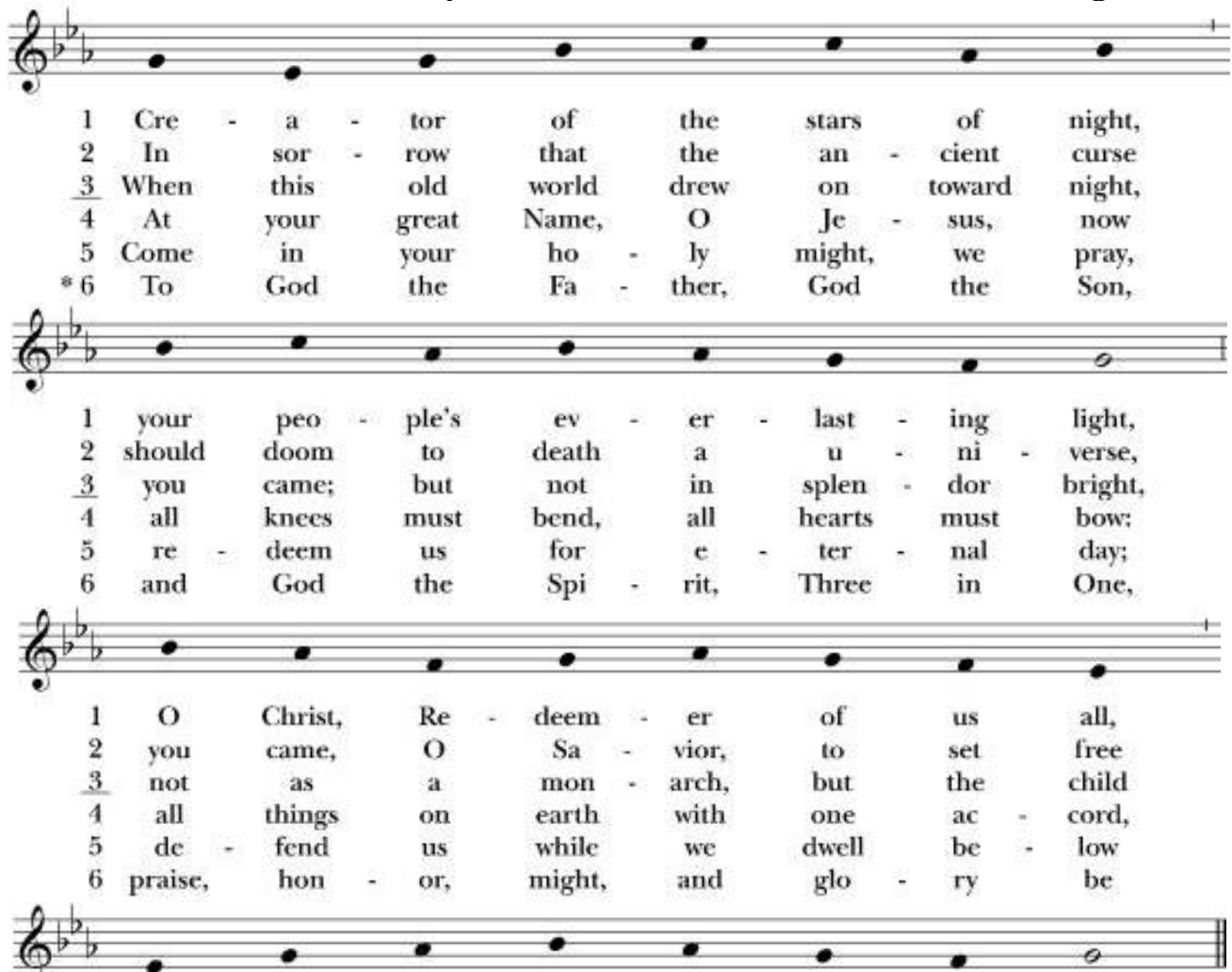
When Christ came into the world, he said,

"Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired, but a body you have prepared for me; in burnt offerings and sin offerings you have taken no pleasure. Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God' (in the scroll of the book it is written of me)."

When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

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

THE SEQUENCE HYMN - The Hymnal 1982 – #60 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.

Latin, 9th cent.; ver. Hymnal 1940, alt.

THE HOLY GOSPEL: Luke 1:39-45(46-55)

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

Glory to you, Lord Christ!

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

[And Mary said,

"My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty.

He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever."]

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

THE SERMON

The Right Reverend Doctor Douglas J. Fisher

THE 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 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 - FORM VI

The People may stand or kneel

Intercessor In peace, we pray to you, Lord God. *Silence*

For all people in their daily life and work;

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

For Joseph, our President; for Maura, our Governor, for Dominic, our Mayor.

For this Community; the Nation and the World.

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

For the just and proper use of your creation;

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

For all who are in danger especially in the Middle East and Ukraine, and for those in sorrow, or any kind of trouble;

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

For the peace and unity of the Church of God;

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

We pray for Presiding Bishop Sean Rowe and our Bishop, Doug Fisher. We pray for Church Without Walls and the Big Blue Drop-in Center.

For all who serve God in the Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.

Silence (The People may add their own petitions)

Hear us, Lord;

For your mercy is great.

We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life. We are thankful for those celebrating **birthdays** this week, especially Donna Barten, Edwin Callard, Laurence S. Derosé, and Kent Tarrant. We pray for those celebrating **anniversaries** this week, especially The Reverend Michael Devine & Mariana Bauman. We give thanks for the flowers adorning the sanctuary today, given to the glory of God, in honor of Laurel's Baptism by Jillian and Steve Jablonski

Silence.

We will exalt you, O God our King;

And praise your Name for ever and ever.

We pray for the departed, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom. We remember especially those whom we name aloud now; *(pause for names)*.

We pray for those in the history of Christ Church Cathedral who died the week of December 22nd: Mabel A. Mandigo, Eva May Perry, Mabel A. Waldo, Judith Hanson, Edward Hart, Barbara Reisbig, Evelyn C. LaFaille, Ernestine Pyles, Rae Tomlinson, Charles Iles, Ethel Cornell, Lucille Chobot, Alice F. Cady, Alfred W. Prouty, Dudley P. Waldo, Blanche Grunden, Marjorie Elliot, Annie Bailey, and Douglass Gladden. Bless all those whose lives have been cut short by gun violence and war.

Give to the departed eternal Rest.

Let light perpetual shine upon them.

We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy.

May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

The Celebrant adds a concluding prayer

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and earth: Mercifully accept the prayers of your people and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

CONFESSION OF SIN

Deacon We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

All Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Celebrant 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

Celebrant The peace of the Lord be always with you.

All And also with you.

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE OFFERTORY ANTHEM - "The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came" – *Basque tradition, arr. Pettman*

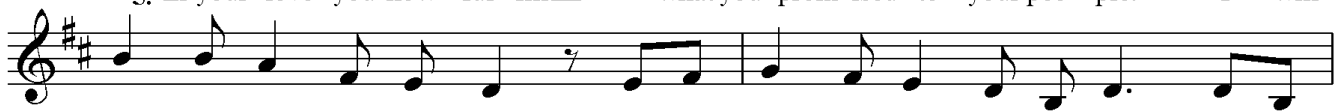


During the Offertory, the Altar is prepared. People may place pledges and donations in the collection basket during the offertory. You may also donate, and pledge online, just point your phone at the QR code to the left

THE OFFERTORY HYMN – Holy is Your Name



Cantor: 1. My soul is filled with joy, as I sing to God, my Sav - ior, you have
All: 2. I am low - ly as a child, but I know from this day for - ward that my
3. I pro - claim the pow'r of God, you do mar - vels for your ser - vants; though you
4. To the hun - gry you give food, send the rich a - way emp - ty. In your
5. In your love you now ful - fill what you prom - ised to your peo - ple. I will



looked up - on your serv - ant, you have vis - it - ed your peo - ple. And
name will be re - mem - bered, for all will call me bless - ed.
scat - ter the proud heart - ed and de - stroy the might of princ - es.
mer - cy you are mind - ful of the peo - ple you have cho - sen.
praise you, Lord, my sav - ior, ev - er - last - ing is your mer - cy.



ho - ly is your name through all gen - er - a - tions! Ev - er - last - ing is your mer - cy to the



peo - ple you have chos - en, and ho - ly is your name.

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE
THE GREAT THANKSGIVING, EUCHARISTIC PRAYER A

When all is in place, the Celebrant says

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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 sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. 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:

THE SANCTUS – Veni Emmanuel

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and God of might,
Heav - en and earth are 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 people may stand, sit or kneel.

The Celebrant continues

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Creator of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

All Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with the ever-blessed Virgin Mary and all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom. All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. 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.**

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

**All 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.**

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.

Celebrant Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

All Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

THE FRACTION ANTHEM – Veni Emmanuel

Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the
 world, Have mer - cy on us.
 Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the
 world, Have mer - cy on us.
 Je - sus, Lamb of God, you take a - way the sins of the world,
 Grant us your peace.

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Everyone is invited to receive the Holy Communion. Our practice is to stand or kneel at the altar rail in front, where the clergy will give you the host and then will give you the chalice. If you desire only a blessing and not the Communion, please indicate by crossing your arms before you. If you prefer Gluten-Free wafers or non-alcoholic grape juice, please tell the eucharistic ministers.

THE COMMUNION ANTHEM - "In the Bleak Midwinter" – Harold Darke

MEDITATION HYMN – Wait for the Lord

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.
 Wait for the Lord: keep watch, take heart!

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

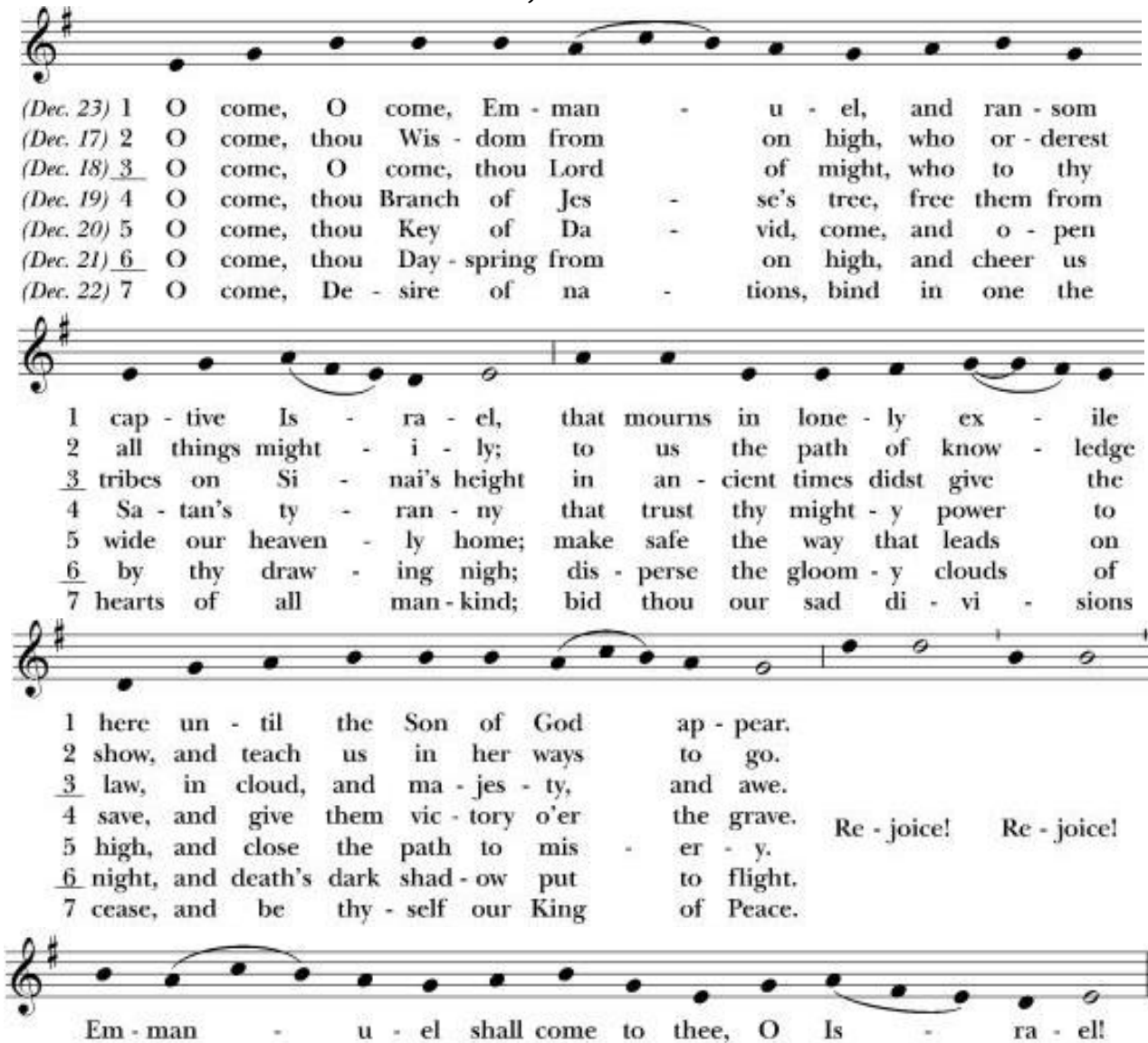
Celebrant Let us pray.

All 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.

THE BLESSING

THE RECESSIONAL HYMN - The Hymnal 1982 - #56

O Come, O Come Emmanuel v. 1-7



(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
(Dec. 20) 5 O come, thou Key of Da - vid, come, and o - pen
(Dec. 21) 6 O come, thou Day - spring from on high, and cheer us
(Dec. 22) 7 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind in one the

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
5 wide our heaven - ly home; make safe the way that leads on
6 by thy draw - ing nigh; dis - perse the gloom - y clouds of
7 hearts of all man - kind; bid thou our sad di - vi - sions

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!
5 high, and close the path to mis - er - y.
6 night, and death's dark shad - ow put to flight.
7 cease, and be thy - self our King of Peace.

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

The stanzas may be used as antiphons with "The Song of Mary" on the dates given.

THE DISMISSAL

The Deacon dismisses the people with these words

Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia!! **Thanks be to God. Alleluia!!**

THE CLOSING VOLUNTARY- "Keep Your Lamps"

CHRIST CHURCH CATHEDRAL CATEDRAL IGLESIA DE CRISTO

Episcopal Diocese of Western Massachusetts

Gathered by God from many cultures | **Reunidos** por Dios de muchas culturas
Transformed by the grace of Jesus Christ | **Transformados** por la gracia del Jesucristo
Sent out empowered by the Holy Spirit | **Enviados** en el poder del Espiritu Santo

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Christ Church Cathedral is an inclusive parish welcoming all people regardless of faith, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, or creed. You are loved here and we remind you that God loves you, too!

La Catedral Iglesia de Cristo es una parroquia que es inclusiva y da la bienvenida a todos no importa su fe, etnicidad, genero, orientacion sexual, o creencias. Aquí usted es amado y amada y Dios les ama tambien!

Participants in today's service

Officiant 8AM	Oswald Howard
Celebrant /Preacher 10AM	The Right Reverend Doctor Douglas J. Fisher
Deacon	The Reverend Kate Derose
Music Director	Dr. Colin Britt
Verger	Oswald Howard
Acolytes	Savannah Riley, Jacob Jackson, Maame Asante, and Bijou Asante
Lectors	Mike Stevens, and Liz Stevens
Intercessor	Thomas Oneil
Altar Guild 8A	Lee Kirk
Altar Guild 10A	Oswald Howard, and Sarah Betsher
Eucharistic Minister 8A	Lee Kirk
Eucharistic Ministers 10A	Rajendra Lalak, Oswald Howard, and Mark Betsher
Ushers	Angelika Melien, and Sinda Mohamed
Livestream Team	Francita Sage-Thorington, Brooke Larson, and Seth Larson



Cathedral Staff

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The Rev. Canon Jerry True	Assisting Priest	jerry5185@gmail.com
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Mrs. Amanda Paredes	Office Administrator	cccspfld@gmail.com
Mr. Jackson "Jack" Chamberlain	Lawrence House Intern	Intern@cccspfld.org
Mr. John Lamoutte	Sexton	lamouttejohn@gmail.com



Donate to the Cathedral through PayPal: Point your camera at the QR code to the left and it will lead you to a link where you can donate electronically. We rely on the pledges and financial support of our members and friends, and we thank you for making all of this possible.

“For where your treasure is, there your heart will be also” – Matthew 6:21