

PSALM 48 :1-2,10-13 *Magnus Dominus*

Plainsong, Mode I

During the procession, the choir sings the antiphon, which is then repeated by all. Thereafter, the choir sings the verses, and all join on the antiphon, as indicated.

Antiphon (b)

We have wait - ed on your lov - ing kind - ness,
O Lord, in the midst of your tem - ple.

- 1 Great is the LORD, and highly to be praised; *
in the city of our God is his holy hill.
- 2 Beautiful and lofty, the joy of all the earth, is the hill of Zion, *
the very center of the world and the city of the great King. [Ant.]
- 10 Let Mount Zion be glad
and the cities of Judah rejoice, *
because of your judgments.
- 11 Make the circuit of Zion;
walk round about her; *
count the number of her towers. [Ant.]
- 12 Consider well her bulwarks;
examine her strongholds; *
that you may tell those who come after.
- 13 This God is our God for ever and ever; *
he shall be our guide for evermore. [Ant.]

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS, HYMN 899 [green hymnal]

Carl Haywood

Sung by all.

Glo - ry,
Glo - ry hal - le - lu - jah, Lord we praise your Ho - ly name, Glo - ry,
Glo - ry hal - le - lu - jah, Lord we praise your Ho - ly name. -
Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his peo - ple on earth. -
Lord God, heav - en - ly King, al - might - y God and Fa - ther, we

wor-ship you, we give you thanks, we praise you for — your glo-ry.

Lord Je - sus Christ, on - ly Son of the Fa - ther, Lord God, Lamb of
God. Glo-ry, Glo-ry hal - le-lu - jah, Lord we praise your Ho - ly name,
— Glo-ry, Glo-ry hal - le-lu - jah, Lord we praise your Ho - ly name.

You take a-way the sin of the world: have mer - cy on us; you are

seat-ed at the right hand of the Fa - ther: re - ceive our — prayer. For

you a - lone are the Ho - ly One, you a - lone are — the Lord,

you a - lone are the Most High, Je - sus Christ, with the
Ho - ly Spi - rit, in the glo - ry of — the Fa - ther. Glo - ry,

Descant
Lord, — Lord — we praise — you, —
Glo - ry hal - le - lu - jah, Lord we praise your Ho - ly name,

Lord, Lord, hal - le - lu - jah.
 Glo - ry, Glo - ry hal - le - lu - jah, Lord we praise your
 Ho - ly name. A - - - men.

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we humbly pray that, as your only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple, so we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts by Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

THE FIRST LESSON [*The people are seated.*]

Malachi 3:1-4

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner’s fire and like fullers’ soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 84 *Quam dilecta*

David Boulware-Kelley

The cantor sings the refrain, which is then repeated by all. Thereafter, the cantor sings the verses, and all join on the refrain, as indicated.

How dear to me is your dwell - ling, O LORD of hosts.

- 1b My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the LORD;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
- 2 The sparrow has found her a house
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; *
by the side of your altars, O LORD of hosts,
my King and my God. [*Ref.*]
- 3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! *
they will always be praising you.
- 4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! *
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims’ way.
- 5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, *
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.
- 6 They will climb from height to height, *
and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion. [*Ref.*]
- 7 LORD God of hosts, hear my prayer; *
hearken, O God of Jacob.

- 8 Behold our defender, O God; *
and look upon the face of your Anointed. *[Ref.]*
- 9 For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room, *
and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God
than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.
- 10 For the LORD God is both sun and shield; *
he will give grace and glory;
- 11 No good thing will the LORD withhold *
from those who walk with integrity.
- 12 O LORD of hosts, *
happy are they who put their trust in you! *[Ref.]*

THE SECOND LESSON

Hebrews 2:14-18

Since, therefore, the children share flesh and blood, he himself likewise shared the same things, so that through death he might destroy the one who has the power of death, that is, the devil, and free those who all their lives were held in slavery by the fear of death. For it is clear that he did not come to help angels, but the descendants of Abraham. Therefore he had to become like his brothers and sisters in every respect, so that he might be a merciful and faithful high priest in the service of God, to make a sacrifice of atonement for the sins of the people. Because he himself was tested by what he suffered, he is able to help those who are being tested.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

AT THE SEQUENCE, HYMN 277 “Sing of Mary, pure and lowly”

Raquel

Sung by all, standing. During the singing of the Sequence Hymn, children through second grade may follow the Dove Cross to Children’s Chapel.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 2:22-40

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

A Reading from the Holy Gospel according to Luke.

Glory to Christ our Saviour.

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, Jesus’ parents brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord”), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.” Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying, “Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.” And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, “This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed—and a sword will pierce your own soul too.” There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem. When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

The Gospel of Christ.

Praise to Christ our Lord.

THE SERMON The Rev. Jon Strand

A brief period of silence is observed for reflection on the sermon. The people stand for the Creed.

THE NICENE CREED *[Said by all.]*

We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is seen or 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, one in 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 was born of the Virgin Mary, and became man. For our sake He was crucified under Pontius Pilate; He suffered, died and was buried. On the third day he rose again in fulfillment of 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. 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 *[All remain standing.]*

Intercessor Our Heavenly Father has promised through our Lord Jesus Christ to hear us when we pray in faith. Let us therefore pray for the Church and the World, and let us thank God for His goodness.

Silence may be kept.

Intercessor We pray for the Church of God in every place; especially for this Diocese, our Bishop(s) _____ and all the people of God.

People **Strengthen your Church to carry forward the work of Christ; that we and all who confess your Name may unite in truth, live together in your love, and reveal your glory to the world.**

Intercessor We pray for our country and for all the nations of the world, especially _____ and for all peoples in their various callings.

People **Direct this nation and all nations in the ways of justice and truth. Give wisdom to all in positions of public trust and authority; that they may promote the prosperity, godliness and peace of your people everywhere.**

Intercessor We pray for our own community, for this parish, for our families, friends, and all who live and work with us.

People **Give grace to all our friends and neighbors in Christ, that we may serve Him in one another and grow together in His love.**

Intercessor We pray for the poor, the sick, the unemployed, the handicapped; all who have requested our prayers and all who seek the prayers of the Church in their time of trouble.

People **Give healing and strength to all who suffer in body, mind or spirit. Give them courage and hope in their troubles and sustain all those who remember and care for them.**

Intercessor We commemorate the departed, especially _____.

People **We commend all people to your unfailing love, that in them your will may be fulfilled; and we rejoice at the faithful witness of your saints in every age, praying that we may share with them in your eternal kingdom.**

Silence may be kept.

Intercessor Accept these prayers, O Lord our God, for the sake of your Son, our Saviour Jesus Christ

People **Amen.**

THE ACT OF PENITENCE

The Presider says

If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins, and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. *[All kneel in silence.]*

Let us therefore confess our sins.

Almighty God, our Heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and one another, in thought, word and deed, and in what we have left undone. We are sorry and repent of all our sins. For your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ's sake, forgive us all that is past, and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your Name. Amen.

The Presider stands and says

Almighty God, have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in life eternal; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

THE GREETING OF PEACE

We are the body of Christ. By the one Spirit we were all baptized into one Body, and have all been made to drink of the one Spirit.

Let us then pursue the things that make for peace and build up the common life.

The people greet one another with a sign of God's peace and are then seated.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY SENTENCE

The people remain seated while an offering is received to support Holy Comforter's work of sharing God's love with the world. As the offering is brought forward to the altar, all stand.

AT THE OFFERTORY, ANTHEM: "I Waited for the Lord"

Felix Mendelssohn

I waited for the Lord, He inclined unto me, He heard my complaint.
O blessed are they that hope and trust in the Lord, that hope and trust in Him.

THE PRESENTATION OF THE OFFERINGS

When the offerings are presented at the altar the following shall be said:

Father, we offer you these gifts which you have given us; this bread, this wine, this money. With them we offer ourselves, our lives, and our work, to become through your Holy Spirit a reasonable, holy, and lively sacrifice. As this bread and wine become the Body and Blood of Christ, so may we and all your people become channels of your love; through the same Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Presider The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Presider Lift up your hearts.

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

Presider Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

The Presider proceeds

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Father almighty, everlasting God: Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Because in coming to dwell among us as man, He revealed the radiance of His glory, and brought us out of darkness into His own marvelous light.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS, HYMN 858 [*green hymnal*]

Land of Rest

Sung by all.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of power and
might, heaven 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. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

The Presider continues and gives thanks to God for the reconciling work of Christ and prays over the bread and wine.

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

Presider Let us proclaim the mystery of our faith:

People **Jesus is Lord. He has reconciled us to Himself: Christ makes all things new.**

The Presider continues the prayer

Presider With Him and in Him and through Him, by the power of the Holy Spirit, we worship you, Father Almighty, with all who stand before you in earth and heaven, in songs of everlasting praise.

People **Blessing and honor and glory and power be yours for ever and ever. Amen.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Presider As our Savior has taught us, so we pray:

People **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

Presider We break this bread to share in the body of Christ.

People **Though we are many, we are one body, because we all share in one bread.**

Presider The Gifts of God for the People of God.

People **Our souls will feast and be satisfied, and we will sing glad songs of praise to Him.**

THE AGNUS DEI, HYMNAL, S 164

Sung by all.



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

Franz Schubert

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

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

give us your peace, give us your peace.

INVITATION [*The People are seated.*]

As Jesus welcomed all to his table, so do we at Holy Comforter. The bread and the wine are the central symbols of God's presence and we invite you to share in the Eucharist in whatever way feels comfortable to you, regardless of age or tradition. We also offer gluten-free bread and unfermented grape juice as alternatives—just let the priest know. If you prefer to receive a blessing, cross your arms in front of your chest. The Holy Eucharist is an outward and visible sign of an inward and spiritual grace, a mutual indwelling of Christ in us and us in him. Come to the table and be joined into Christ's ministry of love and reconciliation.

HEALING PRAYERS

Anyone wishing for healing prayers—whether for yourself or for another or for our hurting world—is invited to come to the prayer station in the back of the nave after receiving communion. You need only say as much as you wish, and anything said will be held in confidence.

COMMUNION MUSIC [*Sung by all.*]

HYMN 324 "Let all mortal flesh keep silence"

Picardy

HYMN 499 "Lord God, you now have set your servant free"

Song 1

SENDING OF EUCHARISTIC VISITORS

Presider In the name of God and of this congregation, I send you forth bearing these holy gifts, that those to whom you go may share with us in the Communion of Christ's Body and Blood.

People **We who are many are one body because we share one bread, one cup.**

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER [*Said by all.*]

Almighty Father, we thank you for feeding us with the Body and Blood of your Son Jesus Christ. May we who share His Body live His risen life; we who drink His cup bring life to others; we upon whom your Spirit shines give light to the world. Help us to continue in faithful witness to your Word, so we and all your children shall be free, and the whole earth live to praise your Name, through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE BLESSING

Christ the Son of God gladden your hearts with good news of His kingdom; and the blessing of God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be upon you and those you love and pray for, now and always. **Amen.**

AT THE CLOSING, HYMN 657 "Love divine, all loves excelling"

Hyfrydol

Sung by all, standing.

DISMISSAL

Go in peace and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.

CLOSING VOLUNTARY: Choral Song

Samuel Sebastian Wesley