

ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH

ANNAPOLIS • MARYLAND • ESTABLISHED 1692



THE FEAST OF THE EPIPHANY

Sunday, January 5, 2025
11:15 a.m.

Epiphany Lessons and Carols
Holy Eucharist—Rite Two

WELCOME TO ST. MARGARET'S CHURCH

If you are visiting us for the first time, let us offer you an especially warm welcome. We hope that you will enjoy worshipping with us. We would like to continue our relationship with you, so please fill out a visitor card which may be found in a pew packet or on our website's "Newcomers" page at www.st-margarets.org/newcomers.html.

SAFETY PROTOCOLS AT ST. MARGARET'S

Our COVID-19 safety protocols have been relaxed and mask wearing is optional. Hand sanitizer bottles are offered throughout the campus. **In the event of an emergency, please stay calm, stay seated, and listen for instructions.**

CHILDREN AT ST. MARGARET'S

Nursery care is provided by loving professionals for ages 0-3 from 8:45 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. The Nursery is located on the lower floor of the Annex, the building attached to the Sanctuary.

We provide **Sunday School** for children ages 3-14 most Sundays from September through May. To find out more and to sign up your child, email Emily DelSordo, Children's Formation Coordinator, at emily@st-margarets.org. Our Youth Group, fellowship for middle and high school students, meets on Mondays at 6:15 p.m. To find out more and sign up your youth, email Allison Wood, Youth Ministries Leader, at youthminister@st-margarets.org.

On Mondays from September through May, we offer an evening of **Faith and Fellowship**, with chorister rehearsals (grades K-5) and activities for their younger siblings at 5:15 p.m., followed by a Fellowship dinner for all ages at 6:15 p.m., with crafts for children afterwards. Chorister-led evening services take place on the fourth Monday of the month prior to dinner at 5:45 p.m. Adult choir rehearsal and adult formation offerings take place after dinner at 7:00 p.m. On the last Monday of the month, there is an evening service led by our choristers at 5:45 p.m. Please check the church calendar at www.st-margarets.org/church-calendar.html to confirm programs are scheduled.

Our **Day School** has been accredited by the National Association for the Education of Young Children and named a Green School by the State of Maryland. For ages 2-6, the school offers a quality curriculum and special activities such as Spanish, STEM lessons, music, and physical education. After school activities are also offered, such as soccer, ballet, and basketball. The school also offers highly popular summer camps from June to August for ages 2-6. More information may be found on their website at www.stmargaretsdayschool.org, or by emailing Aleshia Marshall, Day School Director, at smdsdirector@outlook.com.

ADULT FORMATION AT ST. MARGARET'S

We offer adults a variety of ways to grow in faith. Our **Thursday Morning Book Club** meets through Zoom at 9:00 a.m., while our **Gospel Sessions** (formerly known as Senior Sessions) take place on the second and fourth Tuesdays of the month at 9:00 a.m., also on Zoom.

St. Margaret's is known for its **many outreach efforts** both locally and around the world. From Winter Relief, producing masks and prayer shawls, and assisting with feeding the hungry, we are an active and committed church. Our Endowment Grants annual program has provided millions of dollars to organizations here and across the globe. To get involved, visit our website's "Get Involved" page at www.st-margarets.org/getinvolved.html.

MUSIC AT ST. MARGARET'S

St. Margaret's is blessed with a **vibrant music ministry** that has something for everyone, presently consisting of an adult choir, a youth chorister program, handbells, and a contemporary music ensemble. If you would like to find out more about our music ministry and are interested in joining any of our ensembles, please email Jim Douglas, Director of Music, at music@st-margarets.org. Membership in our choirs and ensembles is open to all, regardless of religious affiliation or background. Please visit the music page on the website at <https://www.st-margarets.org/music-overview.html>. The Music Ministry calendar may also be found on the website at <https://www.st-margarets.org/music-calendar.html>.

The **liturgy and music** for today is led by Director of Music Jim Douglas and the St. Margaret's Adult Choir. It is drawn from The Book of Common Prayer, the 1982 Hymnal, and other resources as noted. Permission to print and live-stream music granted through OneLicense #A-709554 and CCLI #661345/#CSPL068962.

ABOUT THIS SERVICE

Epiphany celebrates the appearance of God's glory in the world through the birth of Jesus, our Emmanuel ('God with us'), and the revelation of the incarnation to the Gentiles, and the whole of creation. It has been marked since the 3rd century with a Feast Day on January 6 and celebrated in both East and West in a rich variety of ways. In the Western Church, the emphasis has been on the nativity itself and the acknowledgement of Christ's sovereignty over all through the visit of the Magi bringing their gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. The revelation of God's true nature is echoed by the words of the Nunc dimittis by the prophet Simeon at the Presentation of Christ in the Temple (February 2).

The Greek word 'epiphany' (ἐπιφάνεια) means literally 'sudden appearance' and refers above all to the 'manifestation' of a god. It is the moment and the means in which we see that Jesus is so much more than a good human being, a wise teacher, and a moral example but in fact God made human, the Word become flesh. It is in this sense that Simeon declares him to be 'salvation' and 'a light to lighten the Gentiles' and that later Jesus calls himself 'the Light of the World,' and so the symbolism of light pervades both this season and this service. Christ calls us out of darkness into light, so that we may recognize the imprints of the divine in all of creation. We pray that our eyes may be opened to see his glory: to have reverence for the whole of creation and respect for every person made in the image and likeness of God.

This service is modeled on a service from Duke University Chapel after the famous Christmas Lessons and Carols service from King's College, Cambridge that follows a similar pattern of readings and carols. Like our Christmas Lessons and Carols service here at St. Margaret's, the Liturgy of the Word makes up the first half of the service and Holy Eucharist the second half.

Cover Art: *'Adoration of the Christ Child by the Three Wise Men,'* 1504, Albrecht Dürer
 Uffizi Gallery, Florence, Italy.
 (Matthew 2:1-12)

*Please silence all electronic devices and remain quiet as we prepare for worship.
Thank you.*

WELCOME

The People stand as they are able and sing the Hymn.

HYMN

The first Nowell

THE FIRST NOWELL

1. The first No - well the an - gel did say Was to
2. They look - ed up and saw a star Shi-ning
3. And by the light of that same star Three
4. Then let us all with one ac - cord Sing

cer - tain poor shep - herds in fields as they lay; In
in the east be - yond them far, And
wise men came from coun - try far; To
prai - ses to our heav'n - ly Lord; That

fields where they lay, keep - ing their sheep, On a
to the earth it gave great light, And
seek for a king was their in - tent, And to
hath made Heav'n and earth of nought, And

cold win - ter's night that was so deep. No-
so it con - tin - ued both day and night.
fol - low the star wher - e - ver it went.
with His blood our life hath bought.

well, No - well, No - well, No - well, born is the King of Is - ra - el.

The People remain standing.

BIDDING PRAYER

Officiant Brothers and sisters, we are gathered to celebrate with joy the appearance of God's glory in the world through the birth of Jesus, who is Emmanuel, God with us; to reflect upon the visit of the Magi bringing homage to their King at his birth; and to hear the prophetic words of Anna and Simeon revealing the Christ child as a light to lighten all people. As we rejoice in this, the Word made flesh, who called us out of darkness into light, so we pray that his love and faithfulness may be known in all the world.

We pray for unity and the mission of Christ's Church, and for all who minister the gospel of Christ; we pray for the world, that we may have reverence for the natural order and respect for every person made in the image and likeness of God; we pray for those who live in the shadow of war and all victims of war and violence; and we pray for those in need, for the lonely, the fearful, the sick and the bereaved, and for all who have no one for pray for them.

May God give us the strength and courage to open our eyes to see God's glory and to give us grace to know God's will for us. The Almighty God bless us with his grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life: and to the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all.

People **Amen.**

The People remain standing.

CAROL Break forth, O beauteous heavenly light (*from Christmas Oratorio BWV 248*) J.S. Bach

*Break forth, O beauteous heavenly light, and usher in the morning.
You shepherds, shudder not with fright, but hear the angels' warning.
This child, now weak in infancy, our confidence and joy shall be
the power of Satan breaking, our peace eternal making.*

I. THE WORD MADE FLESH

Officiant The people that walked in darkness have seen a great light:
People **they that dwell in the shadow of death, upon them has light shined.**

Officiant Arise, shine, for your light has come:
People **and the glory of the Lord has risen upon you.**

Officiant Almighty God, you have given us your only-begotten Son to take our nature upon him and be born of a pure virgin: Grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord.

People **Amen.**

The People may be seated.

FIRST LESSON

Matthew 1:18-23

The Birth of Jesus the Messiah

Now the birth of Jesus the Messiah took place in this way. When his mother Mary had been engaged to Joseph, but before they lived together, she was found to be with child from the Holy Spirit. Her husband Joseph, being a righteous man and unwilling to expose her to public disgrace, planned to dismiss her quietly. But just when he had resolved to do this, an angel of the Lord appeared to him in a dream and said, "Joseph, son of David, do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife, for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit. She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet: "Look, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall name him Emmanuel," which means, "God is with us."

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

CAROL

Of the Father's love begotten

arr. Paul Wohlgemuth

Of the Father's love begotten, ere the worlds began to be,
 he is Alpha and Omega, he the source, the ending he,
 of the things that are, that have been,
 and that future years shall see, evermore and evermore!
 O that birth forever blessed, when the Virgin, full of grace,
 by the Holy Ghost conceiving, bore the Savior of our race;
 and the Babe, the world's Redeemer,
 first revealed his sacred face, evermore and evermore!
 O ye heights of heav'n adore Him; angel hosts, his praises sing;
 powers, dominions, bow before Him, and extol our God and King;
 let no tongue on earth be silent,
 every voice in concert sing, evermore and evermore!

SECOND LESSON

Luke 2:8-20

The shepherds adore the Infant King

Now in that same region there were shepherds living in the fields, keeping watch over their flock by night. Then an angel of the Lord stood before them, and the glory of the Lord shone around them, and they were terrified. But the angel said to them, "Do not be afraid, for see, I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people: to you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is the Messiah, the Lord. This will be a sign for you: you will find a child wrapped in bands of cloth and lying in a manger." And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host, praising God and saying, "Glory to God in the highest heaven, and on earth peace among those whom he favors!" When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let us go now to Bethlehem and see this thing that has taken place, which the Lord has made known to us." So they went with haste and found Mary and Joseph and the child lying in the manger. When they saw this, they made known what had been told them about this child, and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds told them, and Mary treasured all these words and pondered them in her heart. The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, just as it had been told them.

Lector The Word of the Lord.
 People **Thanks be to God.**

The People stand as they are able and sing the Hymn.

HYMN

Angels, from the realms of glory

REGENT SQUARE

1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er
 2 Shep - herds in the field a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your
 3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions; bright - er vi - sions
 4 Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, watch - ing long in

all the earth; ye, who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
 flocks by night, God with you is now re - sid - ing;
 beam a - far: seek the great De - sire of na - tions;
 hope and fear, sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing,

Refrain

now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
 yon - der shines the in - fant Light: come and wor - ship,
 ye have seen his na - tal star:
 in his tem - ple shall ap - pear:

come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

The People remain standing.

II. THE KING OF THE NATIONS

Officiant At the name of Jesus every knee shall bow; in heaven, on earth, and under the earth:
People and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.
Officiant Nations shall come to your light:
People and Kings to your dawning brightness.
Officiant Almighty God, by the leading of a star you revealed your only-begotten Son to the peoples of the earth: In your mercy, grant that we, who know you now by faith, may at last behold your glory face to face: through Jesus Christ our Lord.
People Amen.

The People are seated.

The Magi are led by the star to Jesus

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, magi from the east came to Jerusalem, asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star in the east and have come to pay him homage.” When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him, and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea, for so it has been written by the prophet: ‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah, are by no means least among the rulers of Judah, for from you shall come a ruler who is to shepherd my people Israel.’” Then Herod secretly called for the magi and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child, and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” When they had heard the king, they set out, and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen in the east, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother, and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

Lector The Word of the Lord.
 People **Thanks be to God.**

The People stand as they are able and sing the Hymn.

HYMN

What star is this, with beams so bright

PUER NOBIS

Unison or harmony

1 What star is this, with beams so bright, more beau - teous
 2 True spake the pro - phet from a - far who told the
 3 The guid - ing star a - bove is bright; with - in them
 4 O Je - sus, while the star of grace im - pels us
 5 To God the Fa - ther, heaven - ly Light, to Christ, re -

1 than the noon - day light? It shines to her - ald
 2 rise of Ja - cob's star; and east - ern sa - ges
 3 shines a clear - er light, and leads them on with
 4 on to seek thy face, let not our sloth - ful
 5 vealed in earth - ly night, to God the Ho - ly

1 forth the King, and Gen - tiles to his crib to bring.
 2 with a - maze up - on the won - drous to - ken gaze.
 3 power be - nign to seek the Giv - er of the sign.
 4 hearts re - fuse the guid - ance of thy light to use.
 5 Ghost we raise our e - qual and un - ceas - ing praise.

The People are seated.

FOURTH LESSON

Matthew 2:13-18

Herod slaughters the innocents of Bethlehem

Now after they had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you, for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, “Out of Egypt I have called my son.” When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the magi, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the magi. Then what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah was fulfilled: “A voice was heard in Ramah, wailing and loud lamentation, Rachel weeping for her children; she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.”

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

CAROL

Coventry Carol

*Traditional English Carol
 arr. Henry Walford Davies*

*Lully Lulla, thou little tiny child, By by lully lullay.
 O sisters too how may we do, For to preserve this day,
 This poor youngling for whom we do sing, by by lully lullay.
 Herod the king in his raging, Charged he hath this day,
 His man of might in his own sight, All young children to slay.
 That woe is me poor child for thee, And ever mourn and say,
 for thy parting, neither say nor sing, by by lully lullay.*

III. LIGHT TO THE WORLD

Officiant But the hour is coming, and now is when true worshippers will worship in spirit and truth.

People **And the Lord, whom you seek, shall suddenly come to the temple.**

Officiant Almighty and ever-living God, clothed in majesty, whose beloved Son was presented in the temple in substance of our flesh, and was acclaimed the glory of Israel and the light of the nations: Grant that we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts, and in the world may reflect the glory shone through Jesus Christ, your Son our Lord.

People **Amen.**

Jesus is presented at the temple

When the eighth day came, it was time to circumcise the child, and he was called Jesus, the name given by the angel before he was conceived in the womb. When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, they 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.” Nations shall come to thy light: and kings to the brightness of thy rising. The Lord, whom you seek: shall suddenly come to his temple. 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.

Lector The Word of the Lord.
 People **Thanks be to God.**

The People stand and sing the Canticle.

CANTICLE

Lord God, you now have set your servant free

SONG 1

Unison or harmony

Lord God, you now have set your ser - vant free to go in
 peace as prom-ised in your word; my eyes have seen the

Sa - vior, Christ the Lord, pre-pared by you for all the
world to see, to shine on na - tions trapped in dark - est night,
the glo - ry of your peo - ple, and their light.

PEACE

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

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

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

BIRTHDAYS AND ANNIVERSARIES

HOLY COMMUNION

To give by cell phone, text GIVESMC to 73256.

During the Offertory, all are welcome to bring their gift to the plate located in front of the altar.
An usher will also walk up the center aisle with the plate for those who wish to offer their gift from their seat.

During Communion, healing prayers and the laying on of hands will take place at the prayer desk in the Narthex.

The People remain seated and sing the Hymn.

HYMN

We three Kings of Orient are

THREE KINGS OF ORIENT



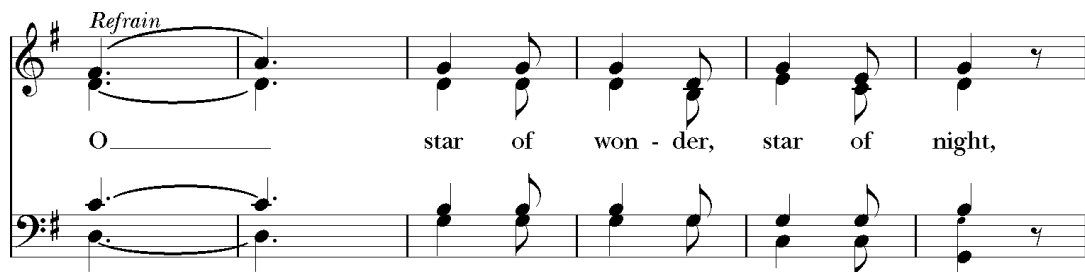
1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are, bear - ing
2 Born a King on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I
3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I: in - cense
4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a
5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and



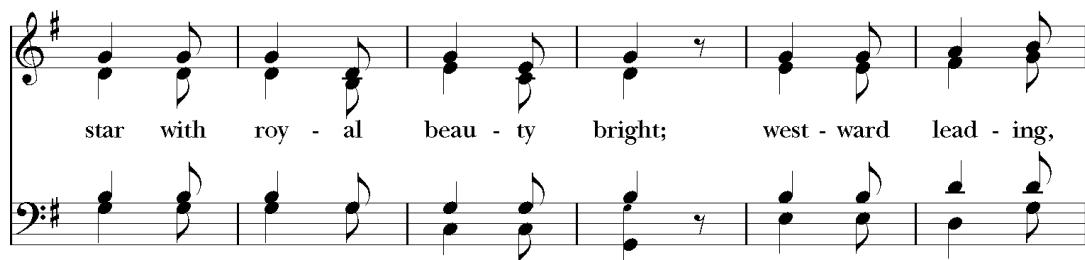
1 gifts we tra - verse a - far, field and foun - tain,
2 bring to crown him a - gain, King for ev - er,
3 owns a De - i - ty nigh; prayer and prais - ing,
4 life of gath - er - ing gloom; sor - rowing, sigh - ing,
5 God and Sac - ri - fice; heaven sings al - le -



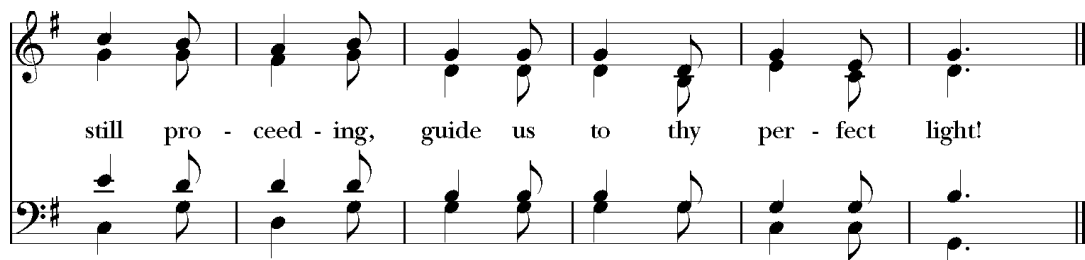
1 moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.
2 ceas - ing nev - er o - ver us all to reign.
3 glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship him, God Most High.
4 bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.
5 lu - ia: al - le - lu - ia the earth re - plies.



O star of won - der, star of night,



star with roy - al beau - ty bright; west - ward lead - ing,



still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!

The People stand as they are able.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer C

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 God our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise.

People **Glory to you for ever and ever.**

Celebrant At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.

People **By your will they were created and have their being.**

Celebrant From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.

People **Have mercy, Lord, for we are sinners in your sight.**

Celebrant Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.

People **By his blood, he reconciled us.**

By his wounds, we are healed.

Celebrant And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

SANCTUS

Richard Proulx

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -
san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.
Blessed 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 Celebrant continues

And so, Father, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, 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."

People Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,
we celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

Celebrant Lord God of our Fathers and Mothers: God of Abraham and Sarah, Isaac, and Rebecca; Jacob, Rachel and Leah; God of our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal.

Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

People **Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.**

Celebrant Accept these prayers and praises, O God, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation.

People **Amen.**

LORD'S PRAYER

Celebrant And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

Celebrant and People

**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.**

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

Celebrant God of promise, you have prepared a banquet for us.
People **Happy are those who are called to the Supper of the Lamb.**

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated Bread.

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ lived and died for you and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The People are seated.

All are welcome to receive bread and wine during Communion, including children. To receive bread, place your hands palms-up at the Communion rail. To receive wine, assist the Eucharistic Minister in guiding the chalice to your lips, or you may intinct by dipping the bread in the wine. If you do not wish to receive the bread or wine, place your arms across your chest to receive a blessing. Gluten-free wafers are available. Indicate your wish for a gluten-free wafer by first extending your hands palms-down when at the Communion rail. These wafers are kept in a separate holder from which you are invited to take one.

COMMUNION MUSIC

Eternity touched hands with time

Plainsong

*Eternity touched hands with time when Mary said, "God's will be done,"
and commonplace became sublime when that young woman bore a son.
The angels shared in earth's delight, a star became the magi's sign,
and shepherds met, on Christmas night, a child, both human and divine.
Time still can touch eternity, when we reach out to God in prayer,
rejoice that Christ will ever be reborn in hearts that want him there!*

The People stand as directed after Communion.

POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

The Church of England

Celebrant Let us pray.

Celebrant and People

**Providing God, we thank you for bringing us together as siblings in your Son Jesus,
through the sacred meal of his body and blood.
May his life shine in us always,
transforming us into a royal priesthood,
into a beloved community,
to serve the world and to heal the nations. Amen.**

EPIPHANY BLESSING

Celebrant May Christ, the Son of God be manifest in you, that your lives may be a light in the world; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit be among you and remain with you always.

People **Amen.**

The People remain standing and sing the Hymn.

HYMN

Christ is the world's true Light

ST. JOAN

1 Christ is the world's true Light, its Cap-tain of sal - va - tion,
2 In Christ all rac - es meet, their an-cient feuds for - get - ting,
3 One Lord, in one great Name u - nite us all who own thee;

the Day - star clear and bright of ev - ery race and na - tion;
the whole round world com - plete, from sun-rise to its set - ting;
cast out our pride and shame that hin-der to en - throne thee;

new life, new hope a - wakes, for all who own his sway:
when Christ is throned as Lord all shall for - sake their fear,
the world has wait - ed long, has tra - vailed long in pain;

free - dom her bond - age breaks, and night is turned to day.
to plough-share beat the sword, to prun - ing - hook the spear.
to heal its an - cient wrong, come, Prince of Peace, and reign.

DISMISSAL

Priest

Alleluia! Alleluia! Go in peace to love and serve the newborn King.

People

Thanks be to God! Alleluia. Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

