

The Holy Eucharist

The First Sunday after Christmas Day

December 29, 2019 • 11:15 AM

Washington National Cathedral

Worship lies at the heart of the Christian life. It is in worship that we express our theology and define our identity. It is through encountering God within worship that we are formed and transformed as the people of God. One of the glories of the Episcopal Church is its liturgical worship. Liturgy refers to the patterns, forms, words, and actions through which public worship is conducted.

The people's responses are in **bold**.

This type of note, offering directions about the service is called a "rubric," which comes from the Latin word rubrica (red)—referring to a time when these instructional notes were always written in red.

THE ENTRANCE RITE

When the service is accompanied by music, it often begins with an instrumental piece of music, during which the congregation can prepare for worship.

CARILLON PRELUDE

Let all mortal flesh keep silence

Picardy; arr. Ronald Barnes (1927-1997)

ORGAN VOLUNTARY

Gesú Bambino Pietro Yon (1886-1943)

The people remain seated for the Introit.

INTROIT

Verbum caro factum est

Hans Leo Hassler (1564-1612)

Sung in Latin. The Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth.

(John 1:14)

The people stand as able at the introduction to the hymn.

HYMN AT THE PROCESSION • 109

The first Nowell Sung by all. The First Nowell

We begin our worship as a gathered community by praising God in song.

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

This prayer was an English rendering of a Latin prayer that began the liturgy in the medieval church before the Reformation. It remains a distinctive part of Episcopal worship to this day.

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.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO

The Gloria, or Song of Praise, centers the service on the God we gather to praise in our worship.



THE WORD OF GOD

THE COLLECT FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY AFTER CHRISTMAS DAY

The Collect is the prayer appointed for each Sunday that "collects" or captures the theme of the day or season of the Church year. It summarizes the attributes of God as revealed in the scriptures for the day.

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Almighty God, you have poured upon us the new light of your incarnate Word: Grant that this light, enkindled in our hearts, may shine forth in our lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The people are seated.

THE FIRST READING Isaiah 61:10–62:3

This reading is typically from the Old Testament (Hebrew Scriptures) which Jesus knew and from which he often referred or quoted.

I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations. For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM 147:13-19

chant: Joseph Barnby (1838-1896)

The psalms are prayers that Jesus used and cover every mood of humanity's relationship with God and one another.

The choir introduces the refrain, then all repeat.



The choir sings the psalm.

Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem; praise your God, O Zion; For he has strengthened the bars of your gates; he has blessed your children within you.

All repeat the refrain.

He has established peace on your borders; he satisfies you with the finest wheat. He sends out his command to the earth, and his word runs very swiftly.

All repeat the refrain.

He gives snow like wool;
he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.
He scatters his hail like bread crumbs;
who can stand against his cold?
He sends forth his word and melts them;
he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.

All repeat the refrain.

THE SECOND READING Galatians 3:23-25, 4:4-7

This reading, taken from the New Testament, is typically from a letter (epistle) to the early Church, the Acts of the Apostles, or the Revelation to John.

Now before faith came, we were imprisoned and guarded under the law until faith would be revealed. Therefore the law was our disciplinarian until Christ came, so that we might be justified by faith. But now that faith has come, we are no longer subject to a disciplinarian. But when the fullness of time had come, God sent his Son, born of a woman, born under the law, in order to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as children. And because you are children, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, "Abba! Father!" So you are no longer a slave but a child, and if a child then also an heir, through God.

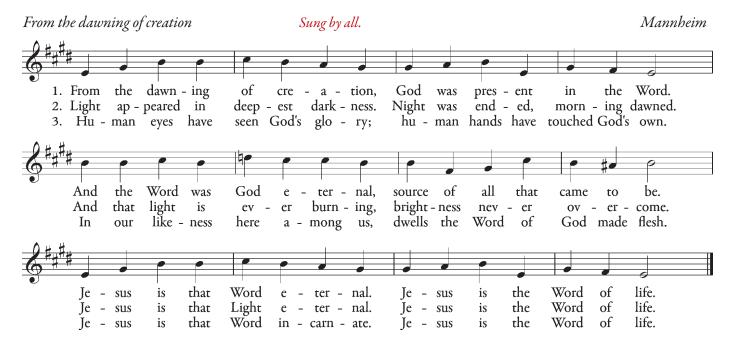
The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

The people stand as able at the introduction to the hymn.

HYMN AT THE SEQUENCE

The sequence hymn or Alleluia moves us toward the summit of the Liturgy of the Word—the reading of the Holy Gospel. Gospel means "good news"—specifically the "good news of Jesus."



THE HOLY GOSPEL John 1:1-18

This reading is taken from one of the four gospels (Matthew, Mark, Luke, and John), which depict the life, teachings, death, resurrection, and ascension of our Lord Jesus Christ. We stand for the Gospel reading to show the particular importance placed on Jesus' words and actions.

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John. Glory to you, Lord Christ.

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was in the beginning with God. All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being in him was life, and the life was the light of all people. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overcome it. There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world came into being through him; yet the world did not know him. He came to what was his own, and his own people did not accept him. But to all who received him, who believed in his name, he gave power to become children of God, who were born, not of blood or of the will of the flesh or of the will of man, but of God. And the Word became flesh and lived among us, and we have seen his glory, the glory as of a father's only son, full of grace and truth. (John testified to him and cried out, "This was he of whom I said, 'He who comes after me ranks ahead of me because he was before me.") From his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. The law indeed was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. No one has ever seen God. It is God the only Son, who is close to the Father's heart, who has made him known.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

The people are seated at the invitation of the preacher.

THE SERMON

The Reverend Canon Leonard L. Hamlin, Sr.

The sermon directly follows the Gospel because it is to be grounded in the scriptures. It illuminates the scriptural readings and relates them to daily life.

The people stand as able.

THE NICENE CREED

The word "creed" comes from the Latin "credo" for "I believe." First formulated at the Council of Nicaea in 325 AD and confirmed in 381 AD, the Nicene Creed is said at the Holy Eucharist and reflects what Christians believe regarding the relationship between the Father, Jesus, and the Holy Spirit: The Holy Trinity.

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

We pray for ourselves and particularly on behalf of others. In our prayers we pray for the for Universal Church, the nation and all who govern, the welfare of the world, the concerns of our community of faith, including those who are in need or suffer, and for the departed. We are reminded in prayer that we are part of a larger fellowship, the Church—the Body of Christ.

After each intercession,

Lord, in your mercy, hear our prayer.

The presider prays the concluding collect, and the people respond, Amen.

THE CONFESSION & ABSOLUTION

Confessing our sins, receiving forgiveness (absolution), and showing signs of peace to one another prepare us to receive Christ in the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

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 presider offers absolution and the people respond, Amen.

THE PEACE

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

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

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY

Having listened to the Word of God, affirmed our faith, confessed our sins, received forgiveness and shared in the peace, we are prepared for the drama and miracle of the Holy Communion. At the offertory, we gratefully offer back to God some of what God has given us, symbolically in the bread and wine, and in the money we give.

An offering is received to support the Cathedral's ministry of sharing God's love with the world.

The altar is prepared for Holy Communion.

ANTHEM AT THE OFFERTORY

My Lord has come Will Todd (b. 1970)

Shepherds, called by angels, called by love and angels; no place for them but a stable. My Lord has come. Sages, searching for stars, searching for love in heaven; no place for them but a stable. My Lord has come. His love will hold me, his love will cherish me, love will cradle me. Lead me, lead me to see him, sages and shepherds and angels; no place for me but a stable. My Lord has come.

The people stand as able at the introduction to the hymn.

HYMN AT THE PRESENTATION • 324, st. 1-2

Let all mortal flesh keep silence Sung by all.

Picardy

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

In the Great Thanksgiving, we do what Jesus himself asked us to do: thank God and recall all that God has done for us in the life, death, and resurrection of Christ. The Great Thanksgiving, or Eucharistic Prayer, is a long prayer with four parts. Each of these four parts corresponds to a different action of Jesus at the Last Supper, where he took, blessed, broke, and gave bread and wine as sacraments of his body and blood. We begin the Great Thanksgiving with the Sursum Corda, meaning "Lift up your hearts."

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 gave Jesus Christ, your only Son, to be born for us; who, by the mighty power of the Holy Spirit, was made perfect Man of the flesh of the Virgin Mary his mother; so that we might be delivered from the bondage of sin, and receive power to become your children.

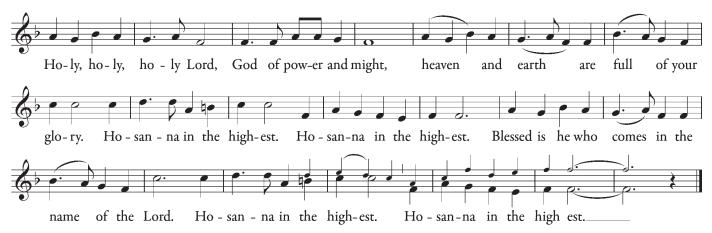
Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS

Sung by all.

Richard Proulx (1937-2010)

The Sanctus (Holy, Holy, Holy) is the hymn of praise that never ceases before God and is based on Isaiah 6:3.



We recall God's acts of salvation history. The presider says the "Words of Institution" that Jesus said at the Last Supper. At the Memorial Acclamation we remember Christ's death, resurrection, and promise to return at the end of the age. During the prayer, the Holy Spirit is invoked to bless and sanctify the gifts of bread and wine.

We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night before he died for us, 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 many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father, We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine.

We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Saint Mary and Saint Joseph, the Apostles Peter and Paul, our patrons, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

The Great Amen is when the congregation with a unified great voice concurs with all that the presider has prayed. It is the only "Amen" in all capitals found in the Book of Common Prayer, signifying the greatness of the congregation's response.

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**.

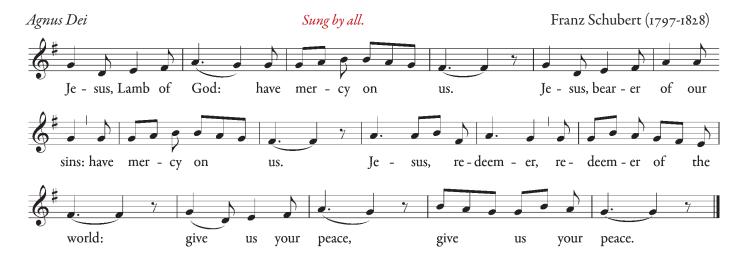
THE LORD'S PRAYER

We pray together the prayer that Jesus taught his disciples to pray. The link between our daily bread and the spiritual food we receive in the Eucharist is an ancient connection.

Notre Père..., Padre nuestro..., Vater unser...,
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 BREAKING OF THE BREAD & THE FRACTION ANTHEM

The presider breaks the bread in silence.



THE INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

The people are seated.

All who seek God and a deeper life in Christ are welcome to receive Holy Communion. Please receive the bread in open and outstretched hands and sip the wine from the chalice, guiding it gently to your lips; or you may dip the wafer into the wine. Gluten-free wafers are available; please make your need known to the minister. Respond to receiving Communion by saying "Amen." If you prefer to receive a blessing instead, please indicate your choice by crossing your hands across your chest. Those who wish to have Holy Communion brought to them at their seat should notify an usher.

During the administration of Holy Communion, the laying on of hands and prayers for healing are offered in St. John's Chapel. Please enter the chapel by the ramp or stairs to the right of the pulpit.

ANTHEM DURING THE COMMUNION

Nesciens mater

Jean Mouton (ca. 1459-1522)

Sung in Latin. Knowing no man, the Virgin mother bore, without pain, the Savior of the world. Him, the king of angels, the Virgin gave milk, her breasts filled by heaven.

(Sarum Antiphon)

The people stand as able.

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

THE BLESSING

The presider blesses the people, and people respond, Amen.

HYMN AT THE CLOSING • 100

Sung by all.

Joy to the world!

Antioch

THE DISMISSAL

Go in peace, share the joy of Christ. Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Dieu parmi nous, from La Nativité

Olivier Messiaen (1908-1992)

Thank you for worshiping at Washington National Cathedral, your National Cathedral.

The work of the Cathedral in service to the city, the nation, and the world is made possible entirely through private support. The gifts of people from across the country and the world are behind every worship service, concert, public program, and the daily work of maintaining this historic landmark. It is only through your generosity that the Cathedral can fully live into its priorities of welcoming, deepening, convening, and serving.

We invite you to support the mission and ministry of the Cathedral. Visit cathedral.org to sign up for our weekly newsletter. You can also make a gift to help keep the Cathedral strong — either as the plate is passed or by using our mobile giving program. Simply text the dollar amount you wish to give to (202) 856-9005. You'll be taken to a secure website to enter your credit card information.

Thank you in advance for your generosity. Please know that your presence with us today has been a blessing.

WORSHIP LEADERS The Reverend Canon Jan Naylor Cope, The Reverend Canon Kelly Brown Douglas, The Reverend Canon Leonard L. Hamlin, Sr., The Reverend Canon Preston B. Hannibal, The Reverend Dr. Beth Humphrey, The Reverend Patrick L. Keyser, The Professional Cathedral Choir.

Russell Bounds; Canterbury Pulpit: in memory of George W. Guthrie; Stone Lectern: in loving memory of Marilyn Ehrlich and Nancy J. McKee; St. Mary's Chapel Altar: in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Larz Anderson, and in loving memory of James H. Lewis and Betty Prater Lewis; Holy Spirit Chapel Altar: in memory of Ann Wilson; St. John's Chapel Altar: in thanksgiving for the Charles Ray Long family and friends; Norman Prince Tomb: in honor of Norman Prince; Children's Chapel Altar: in memory of Wayne Evan Matejik; Christ Child Tree: in honor of Andrew, Kurt, and Stefan Moss, Jennifer and Robert Vettori, Jr., and Lydia Hynson, and in honor of The Great Mystery of the Incarnation; War Memorial Chapel Altar: in memory of Margaret H. Howard; Dulin Bay: given in memory of and thanksgiving for Blanche Scott Dulin, Edward Milton Dulin, Sr., and Dr. William C. Dulin; Folger Bay: given in memory of J. Clifford Folger and Kathrine Dulin Folger; Bethlehem Chapel Altar in honor of David, Michael, and Peter Lee; Angus Dun Font: in honor of Helen Barnard and in thanksgiving for her service to the Cathedral; Prince Tomb Crypt: in honor of Frederick Henry Prince and Abigail Norman Prince; Resurrection Chapel Altar: in thanksgiving for the Charles Ray Long family and friends; Good Shepherd Chapel Altar: in memory of Charlie Habanananda; St. Joseph's Chapel Altar: in loving memory of Favour H. Slater and Mary and Sherman Hazeltine; Columbarium Gates in St. Joseph's Chapel: in memory of the Seferlis and Tidball families.

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