

# Christmas Eve

FESTIVAL HOLY EUCHARIST



WASHINGTON NATIONAL CATHEDRAL



Dear friends,

Welcome to Washington National Cathedral! We are glad you are here with us to share in our Christian celebrations. Thank you for taking time out of your busy schedules to pause and enjoy the wonder of this special season.

Frederick Buechner in his book, *The Longing for Home: Reflections at Midlife*, writes: "Our stories are all stories of searching. We search for a good self to be and for good work to do. We search to become human in a world that tempts us always to be less than human or looks to us to be more. We search to love and to be loved. And in a world where it is often hard to believe in much of anything, we search to believe in something holy and beautiful and life-transcending that will give meaning and purpose to the lives we live."

In the birth of the Christ child, I believe we have found a source of holy, beautiful, transcendent and life-giving meaning that can give our lives great purpose. I believe that in the manger we have found the answer to all our longings and the end of all our searchings. In this miraculous event we discover that the holy and infinite God has chosen to become one of us, not in great power or prestige, but as a vulnerable child born to a poor unwed couple in the stable of a small town. God comes not to punish us but to love us, as one of us. God comes to show us the path to lives of deep meaning and purpose because in the incarnation we are not just taught about the nature of God's love — we literally see it embodied and lived out in the life of Jesus. At Christmas, God comes to show us the way home, to a home we have never seen but a home we have longed for all our lives.

In this day and age when our culture seems to be pulling itself apart, when it is increasingly easy to demonize others rather than honor them, our God shows us a different way. On Christmas, the Holy One stoops to become one of us and in so doing shows us that deep and abiding love always involves humility, vulnerability and trust. In Christ, we are given a guide, a yardstick, to measure ourselves against and to hold up as an example of what we can be at our best. Now more than ever we need the good news of Immanuel, "God with us."

We are blessed by your presence today and we hope this service of praise and worship will be a blessing to you. No matter why you have come, please know that you are welcome here, today and always.

Merry Christmas and may God bless and keep you.

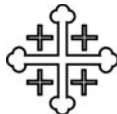
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Randolph Marshall Hollerith". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "R" and a stylized "H".

The Very Reverend Randolph Marshall Hollerith  
*Dean, Washington National Cathedral*

# THE EVE OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

## FESTIVAL HOLY EUCHARIST

DECEMBER 24, 2017 • 10:00 PM



### CARILLON PRELUDE

*O come, all ye faithful*  
*Winter*, from *Almanac for Bells*  
*In dulci jubilo*, from *A Carillon Book for the Liturgical Year*  
*Away in a manger*, from *A Carillon Book for the Liturgical Year*  
*Impression of "The First Nowell"*  
*Jesu, joy of man's desiring*  
*Joy to the world! the Lord is come*  
*Paraphrase on "Gloria in excelsis" for carillon*  
*In the bleak midwinter*  
*O little town of Bethlehem*  
*Hark! the herald angels sing*  
*Silent night, holy night*

*Adeste fideles*; arr. Edward M. Nassor (b. 1957)  
Aaron David Miller (b. 1972)  
Roy Hamlin Johnson (b. 1929)  
R. H. Johnson  
Ludo Geloën (b. 1962)  
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750); arr. Leen 't Hart (1920-1992)  
*Antioch*; arr. Frank P. Law (1918-1985)  
Sjef van Balkom (1922-2004)  
*Cranham*; arr. E. Nassor  
*Forest Green*; arr. Percival Price (1901-1985)  
*Mendelssohn*; arr. F. Law  
*Stille Nacht*; arr. Hans Uwe Hielscher (b. 1945)

### ORGAN PRELUDE

*Finale*, from *Symphony II*, Op. 13/2  
*Concerto I in G major*, BWV 592  
*Chorale Prelude, 'In dulci jubilo'*, BWV 729  
*Fiat Lux*  
*Partita on 'In dulci jubilo'*  
*Bring a torch, Jeanette Isabella*  
*Partita on "Adeste Fideles"*

Charles-Marie Widor (1844-1937)  
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)  
J.S. Bach  
Theodore Dubois (1837-1924)  
James Vivian (b. 1974)  
arr. Keith Chapman (1945-1989)  
Charles Callahan (b. 1951)

### INTROIT

*Away in a manger*  
Away in a manger, no crib for his bed,  
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.  
The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay  
The little Lord Jesus, asleep on the hay.  
The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,  
But little Lord Jesus, no crying he makes;  
I love Thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,  
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.  
Be near me, Lord Jesus, I ask thee to stay  
Close by me forever, and love me, I pray!  
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care,  
And fit us for heaven, to live with thee there.  
(Anonymous)

Traditional; arr. Reginald Jacques (1894-1969)

The people's responses are in bold.

## THE ENTRANCE RITE

The people stand.

### THE BLESSING OF THE CRÈCHE

*Dean Hollerith* Behold, the dwelling of God is with creation.

*People* **He will dwell with us and we shall be his people;**

*Dean Hollerith* God himself is with us. Alleluia.

*People* **Come let us adore him. Alleluia.**

*Dean Hollerith* Eternal Father, you sent your only-begotten Son to take our human nature upon him, and to be born of a pure Virgin: Bless, we pray, this crèche, that it may be a sign of his humble birth; and grant that we who joyfully behold his appearing may be strengthened to greet him when he comes again in glory; even the same Jesus Christ our Lord and Redeemer, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, in glory everlasting.

*People* **Amen.**

### HYMN AT THE PROCESSION

*O come, all ye faithful*

*Adeste Fideles*

1. O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O  
2. God from God, Light from Light e - ter - nal,  
3. See how the shep - herds, sum - moned to his cra - dle,  
4. Child, for us sin - ners poor and in a man - ger,  
5. Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
6. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born that hap - py morn - ing;

1. come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
2. lo! he ab - hors not the Vir - gin's womb;  
3. leav - ing their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;  
4. we would em - brace thee, with love and awe;  
5. sing, all ye ci - ti - zens of heaven a - bove;  
6. Je - sus, to thee be glo - ry given;

1. come, and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels;  
 2. on - ly - be - got - ten Son of the Fa - ther;  
 3. we too will thith - er bend our joy - ful foot - steps;  
 4. who would not love thee, lov - ing us so dear - ly?  
 5. glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est.  
 6. Word of the Fa - ther, now in flesh ap - pear - ing;

*Refrain*

O come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him,

O come, let us a - dore him, Christ the Lord.

## THE ACCLAMATION OF THE NATIVITY

*Dean Hollerith* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.  
*People* And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

*Dean Hollerith* The Word became flesh and dwelt among us;  
*People* And we beheld his glory.

# GLORIA IN EXCELSIS DEO

William Mathias (1934-1992)



Glo - ry to God in the high - est, and peace to his  
 peo - ple on earth. Lord God, heaven - 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, 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  
 God the Fa - ther. A - - - men.

## THE COLLECT OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST

*Dean Hollerith* The Lord be with you.

*People* And also with you.

*Dean Hollerith* O God, you have caused this holy night to shine with the brightness of the true Light: Grant that we, who have known the mystery of that Light on earth, may also enjoy him perfectly in heaven; where with you and the Holy Spirit he lives and reigns, one God, in glory everlasting. Amen.

*The people are seated.*

# THE WORD OF GOD

## THE FIRST READING

Isaiah 9:2-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; those who lived in a land of deep darkness—on them light has shined. You have multiplied the nation, you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you as with joy at the harvest, as people exult when dividing plunder. For the yoke of their burden, and the bar across their shoulders, the rod of their oppressor, you have broken as on the day of Midian. For all the boots of the tramping warriors and all the garments rolled in blood shall be burned as fuel for the fire. For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. His authority shall grow continually, and there shall be endless peace for the throne of David and his kingdom. He will establish and uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time onward and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.

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

## PSALM 96

Chant: George Thalben-Ball (1896-1987)

*The choir introduces the antiphon, then all repeat.*



Sing to the Lord a new song;  
sing to the Lord, all the whole earth.  
Sing to the Lord and bless his Name;  
proclaim the good news of his salvation from day to day.  
Declare his glory among the nations  
and his wonders among all peoples.  
For great is the Lord and greatly to be praised;  
he is more to be feared than all gods.  
As for all the gods of the nations, they are but idols;  
but it is the Lord who made the heavens.  
Oh, the majesty and magnificence of his presence!  
Oh, the power and the splendor of his sanctuary!  
Ascribe to the Lord, you families of the peoples;  
ascribe to the Lord honor and power.

Ascribe to the Lord the honor due his Name;  
bring offerings and come into his courts.  
Worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness;  
let the whole earth tremble before him.  
Tell it out among the nations: "The Lord is King!  
he has made the world so firm that it cannot be moved;  
he will judge the peoples with equity."  
Let the heavens rejoice, and let the earth be glad;  
let the sea thunder and all that is in it;  
let the field be joyful and all that is therein.  
Then shall all the trees of the wood shout for joy  
before the Lord when he comes,  
when he comes to judge the earth.  
He will judge the world with righteousness  
and the peoples with his truth.

*All sing the antiphon.*

## THE SECOND READING

Titus 2:11-14

The grace of God has appeared, bringing salvation to all, training us to renounce impiety and worldly passions, and in the present age to live lives that are self-controlled, upright, and godly, while we wait for the blessed hope and the manifestation of the glory of our great God and Savior, Jesus Christ. He it is who gave himself for us that he might redeem us from all iniquity and purify for himself a people of his own who are zealous for good deeds.

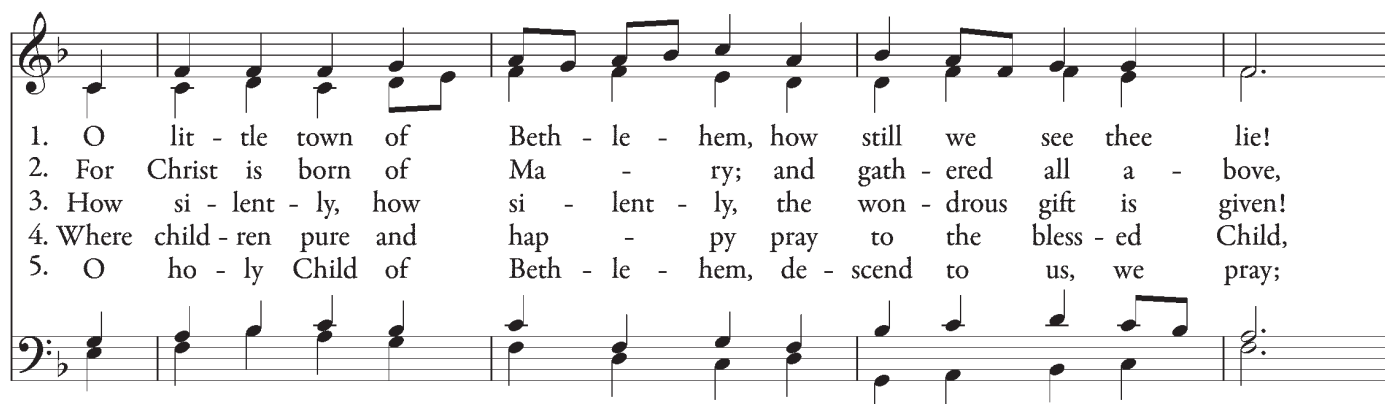
*Reader*            The Word of the Lord.  
*People*            **Thanks be to God.**

*The people stand.*

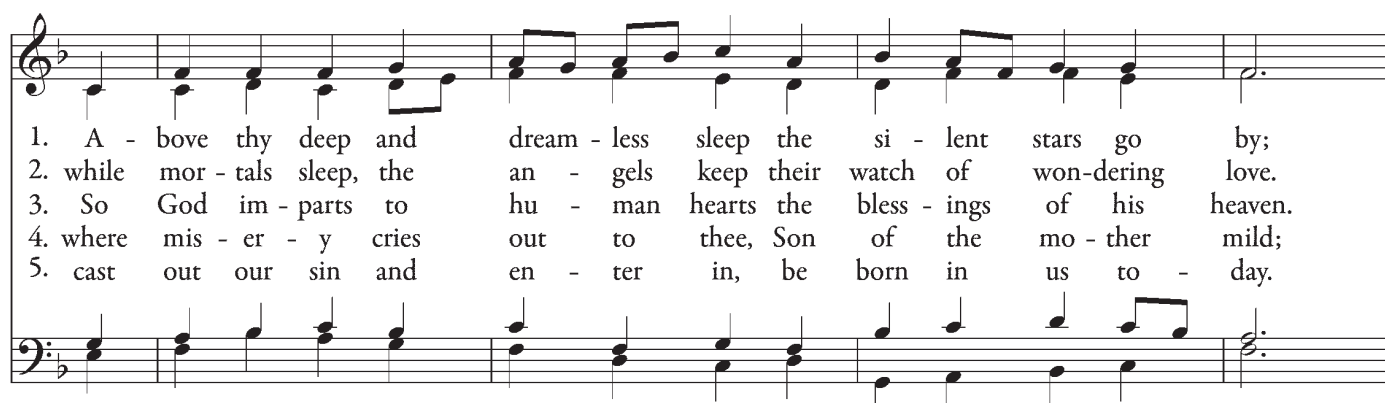
# HYMN AT THE SEQUENCE

*O little town of Bethlehem*

*Forest Green*



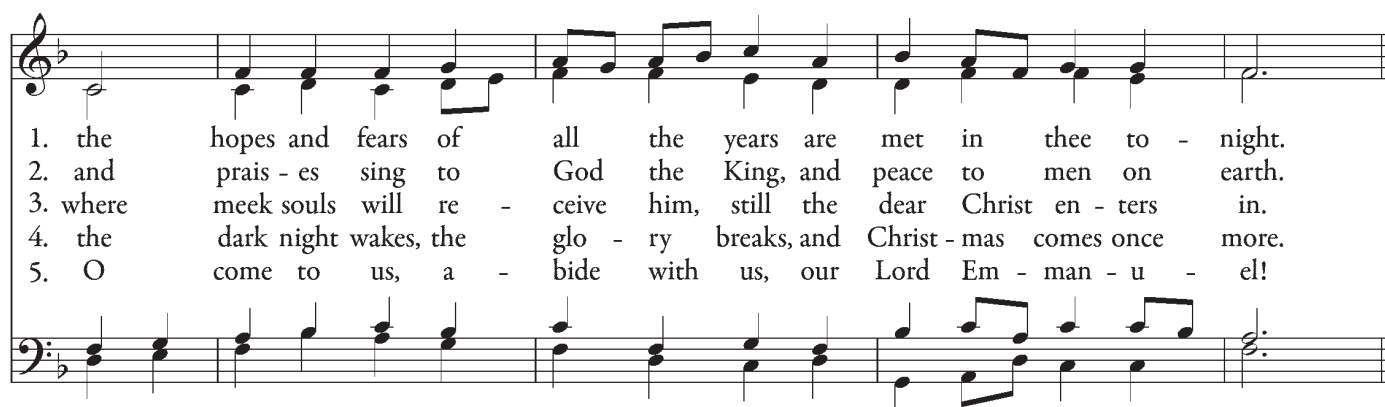
1. O lit - tle town of Beth - le - hem, how still we see thee lie!  
 2. For Christ is born of Ma - ry; and gath - ered all a - bove,  
 3. How si - lent - ly, how si - lent - ly, the won - drous gift is given!  
 4. Where child - ren pure and hap - py pray to the bless - ed Child,  
 5. O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us, we pray;



1. A - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the si - lent stars go by;  
 2. while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - dering love.  
 3. So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heaven.  
 4. where mis - er - y cries out to thee, Son of the mo - ther mild;  
 5. cast out our sin and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.



1. yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing Light;  
 2. O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth!  
 3. No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,  
 4. where char - i - ty stands watch - ing and faith holds wide the door,  
 5. We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;



1. the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.  
 2. and prais - es sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.  
 3. where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.  
 4. the dark night wakes, the glo - ry breaks, and Christ - mas comes once more.  
 5. O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el!



*Gospeller*      The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.  
*People*          **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In those days a decree went out from Emperor Augustus that all the world should be registered. This was the first registration and was taken while Quirinius was governor of Syria. All went to their own towns to be registered. Joseph also went from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to the city of David called Bethlehem, because he was descended from the house and family of David. He went to be registered with Mary, to whom he was engaged and who was expecting a child. While they were there, the time came for her to deliver her child. And she gave birth to her firstborn son and wrapped him in bands of cloth, and laid him in a manger, because there was no place for them in the inn.

In that 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. But 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, as it had been told them.

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

*The people are seated at the invitation of the bishop.*

## THE SERMON

The Right Reverend Mariann Edgar Budde

*The people stand.*

## 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

- Intercessor* As the heavens and earth are filled with the peace and love of the Word made flesh, let us pray for the Church, the world, and all those in need.
- Intercessor* O God, the creator and preserver of all, draw all peoples to you, that your wisdom may be known to the ends of the earth. God of love and peace,
- People* **Hear us, we pray.**
- Intercessor* Strengthen your Church, O God, to be a messenger of peace, that through its proclamation and life it may bring the good news of Christ to all who are disheartened. God of love and peace,
- People* **Hear us, we pray.**
- Intercessor* Make the leaders of nations, states and communities to be lovers of goodness and truth, that all your children may be nurtured and protected. Uphold all who strive for justice and freedom, that their work for peace may shine with your saving love. God of love and peace,
- People* **Hear us, we pray.**
- Intercessor* Raise up those who are lowly and powerless, that the light of Christ's birth may scatter their darkness and bring renewed hope. God of love and peace,
- People* **Hear us, we pray.**
- Intercessor* Surround with your love the lonely, bereaved, and all for whom this season is a burden, that they may know the arms of your mercy. God of love and peace,
- People* **Hear us, we pray.**
- Intercessor* Remember those who live with fear, poverty, anxiety, illness, and all who suffer, that they may be comforted and lifted up. God of love and peace,
- People* **Hear us, we pray.**
- Intercessor* Unite us with all the saints in the light, until we join them in the brightness of your heavenly glory. God of love and peace,
- People* **Hear us, we pray.**
- Dean Hollerith* Almighty God, grant that through our prayers, our lives may radiate the presence of Christ to all who dwell on earth, for he is our Lord for ever and ever.
- All* **Amen.**

## THE PEACE

- Dean Hollerith* The peace of Christ be always with you.
- People* **And also with you.**

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

## THE OFFERTORY

*The people remain seated while an offering is received to support the Cathedral Scholars Program.*

*The altar is prepared for Holy Communion.*

## ANTHEM AT THE OFFERTORY

*A babe is born*

William Mathias (1934-1992)

A babe is born all of a may, to bring salvation unto us. To him we sing both night and day. *Veni Creator Spiritus*. At Bethlehem, that blessed place, The child of bliss now born he was; and him to serve God give us grace, *O lux beata Trinitas*. There came three kings out of the East, to worship the King that is so free, with gold and myrrh and frankincense, *A solis ortus cardine*. The angels came down with one cry, a fair song that night sung they in worship of that child: *Gloria tibi Domine*. A babe is born all of a may, to bring salvation unto us. To him we sing both night and day. *Veni Creator Spiritus*. Noel! (*Anonymous, 15th century*)

*The people stand.*

## HYMN AT THE PRESENTATION

*Of the Father's love begotten*

*Divinium Mystrium*



1. Of the Fa - ther's love be - got - ten, ere the worlds be -
2. O that birth for ev - er bless - ed, when the Vir - gin,
3. Let the heights of heaven a - dore him; an - gel hosts, his
4. Christ, to thee with God the Fa - ther, and, O Ho - ly



gan to be, he is Al - pha and O - me - ga,  
full of grace, by the Ho - ly Ghost con - ceiv - ing,  
prais - es sing; powers, do - min - ions, bow be - fore him,  
Ghost, to thee, hymn and chant and high thanks - giv - ing,



he the source, the end - ing he, of the things that  
bore the Sa - vior of our race; and the Babe, the  
and ex - tol our God and King; let no tongue on  
and un - wear - ied prais - es be; hon - or, glo - ry



are, that have been, and that fu - ture  
world's Re - deem - er, first re - vealed his  
earth be si - lent, ev - ery voice in  
and do - min - ion, and e - ter - nal



years shall see, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!  
sa - cred face, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!  
con - cert ring, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!  
vic - to - ry, ev - er - more and ev - er - more!

# THE HOLY COMMUNION

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*Dean Hollerith* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Dean Hollerith* Lift up your hearts.

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

*Dean Hollerith* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

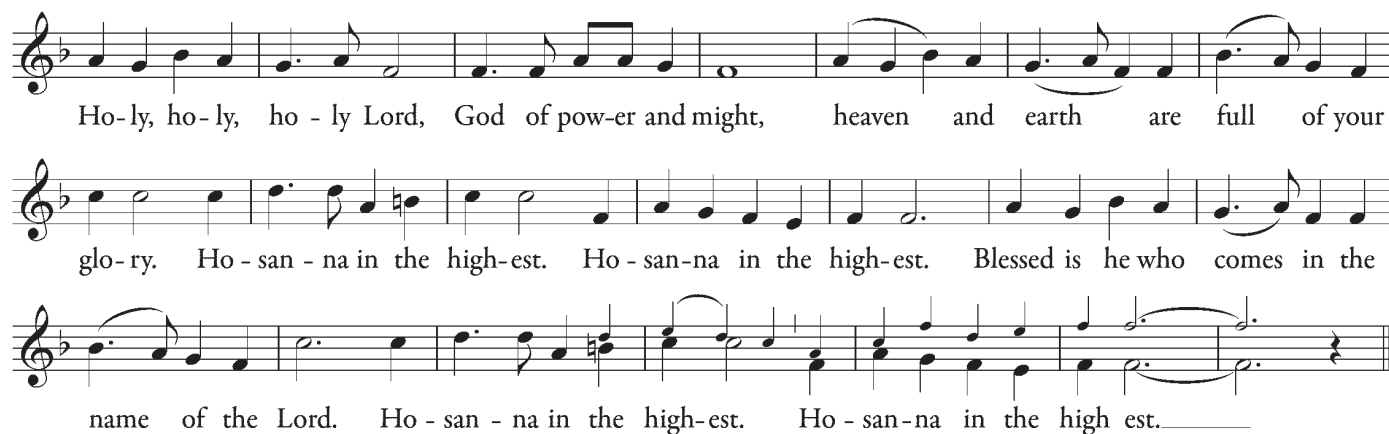
*People* **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

*Dean Hollerith* 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

Richard Proulx (1937-2010)



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.

*Dean Hollerith* 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."



*Dean Hollerith* Therefore, according to his command, O Father,  
*People* **We remember his death, we proclaim his resurrection, we await his coming in glory;**

*Dean Hollerith* 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 blessed Mary and Joseph, 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. 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.

*All* **AMEN.**

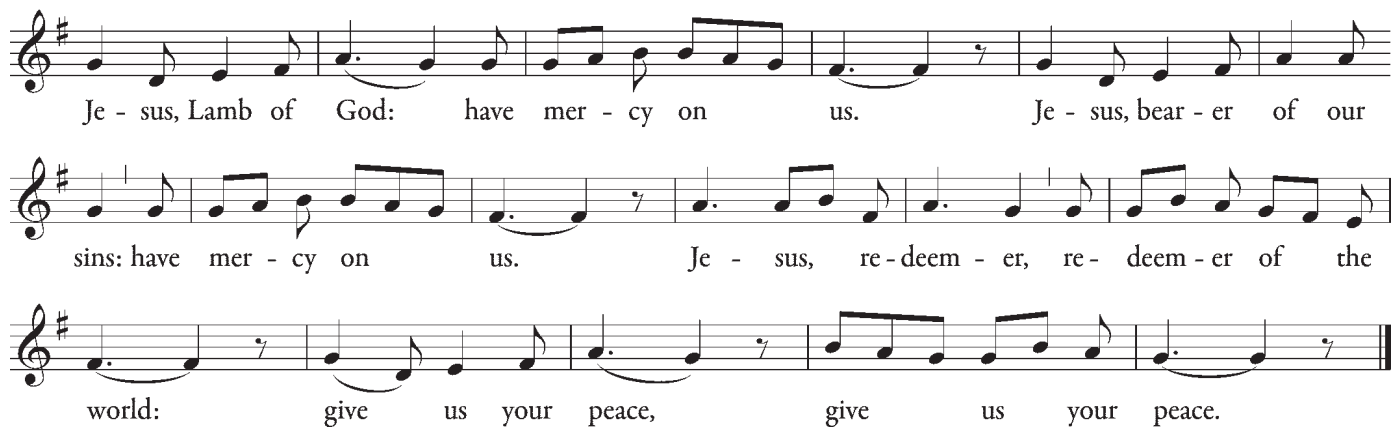
## THE LORD'S PRAYER

*Dean Hollerith* And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

*All* **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

Franz Schubert (1797-1828); arr. R. Proulx



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

*The people are seated.*

## THE INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

*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.*

## ANTHEMS AT THE COMMUNION

*In the bleak midwinter*

Harold Darke (1888-1976)

In the bleak midwinter, frosty wind made moan,  
Earth stood hard as iron, water like a stone;  
snow had fallen, snow on snow, snow on snow,  
in the bleak midwinter, long ago.

Our God, heaven cannot hold him, nor earth sustain;  
Heaven and earth shall flee away when he comes to reign:  
In the bleak midwinter a stable place sufficed  
the Lord God almighty, Jesus Christ.

Enough for Him, whom cherubim, worship night and day,  
a breast full of milk, and a manger full of hay.  
Enough for Him, whom angels, fall down before,  
the ox and ass and camel, which adore.

What can I give Him, poor as I am?  
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb.  
If I were a wise man, I would do my part.  
Yet what I can I give Him, give my heart.

*(Christina Rossetti, 1830-1894)*

*Angelus ad virginem*

arr. Andrew Carter (b. 1939)

*Sung in Latin.* The angel, coming secretly to the Virgin, calming the Virgin's fear, said:  
Hail, Mary, Queen of Virgins! You shall conceive the Lord of Heaven and Earth  
and give birth, remaining a virgin, to the Salvation of mankind;  
you, made the Gateway of Heaven, the cure for sin.

How shall I conceive, since I know not a man?  
How shall I break what I have resolutely vowed?  
The grace of the Holy Spirit shall perform all this.  
Fear not, but rejoice, confident that chastity will remain pure in you by the power of God.

At this, the noble Virgin, replying, said to him:  
I am the humble servant of almighty God.  
To you, heavenly messenger, who know so great a secret,  
I give my assent and desire to see done what I hear, and am ready to obey God's will.

O Mother of the Lord, who restored peace to angels and men  
when you gave birth to Christ, beg of your Son  
that he may show himself favourable to us and wipe away our sins,  
offering help to enjoy the blessed life after this exile.

*(English carol, 13th century)*

*The people stand.*

## HYMN AFTER THE COMMUNION

*Silent night*

*Stille Nacht*

1. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, all is calm, all is bright  
2. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, shep - herds quake at the sight,  
3. Si - lent night, ho - ly night, Son of God, love's pure light

round yon vir - gin mo - ther and child. Ho - ly in - fant, so ten - der and mild,  
glo - ries stream from hea - ven a - far, heaven - ly hosts sing al - le - lu - ia;  
ra - diant beams from thy ho - ly face, with the dawn of re - deem - ing grace,

sleep in hea - ven - ly peace. Sleep in hea - ven - ly peace.  
Christ, the Sa - vior is born! Christ, the Sa - vior is born!  
Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth. Je - sus, Lord, at thy birth.

## THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

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 OF CHRISTMAS

*The bishop blesses the people, and the people respond, Amen.*

# HYMN AT THE CLOSING

*Hark! the herald angels sing*

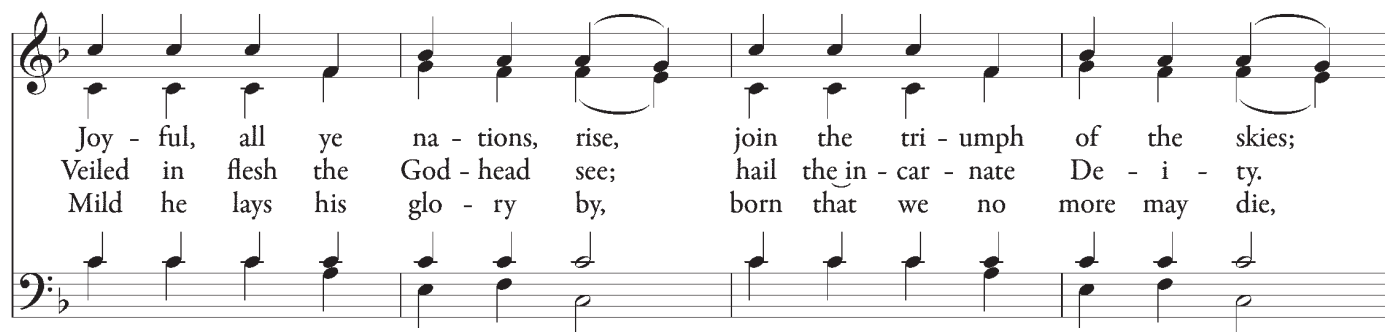
*Mendelssohn*



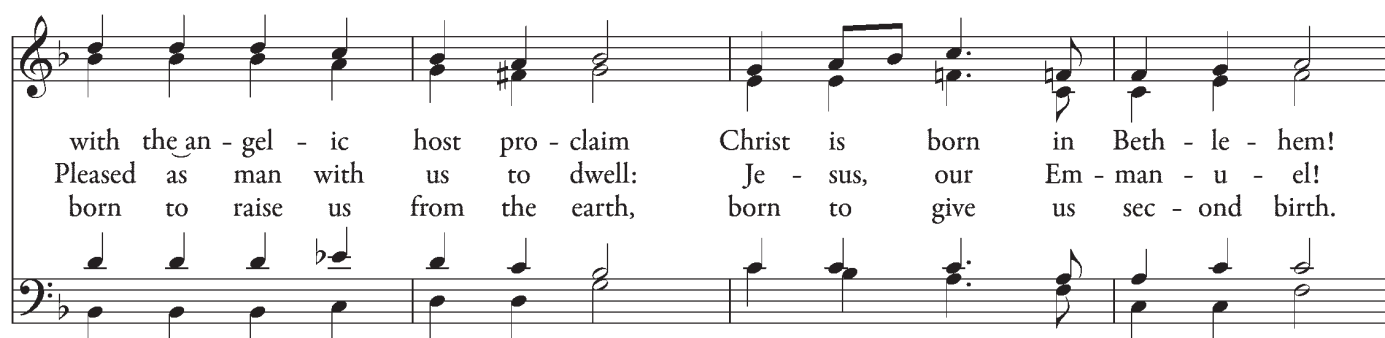
1. Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new - born King!  
 2. Christ, by high - est heaven a - dored; Christ, the ev - er - last - ing Lord;  
 3. Hail the heav'n - born Prince of Peace! Hail the Sun of Right - eous - ness!



Peace on earth and mer - cy mild, God and sin - ners rec - on - ciled!  
 late in time be - hold him come, off - spring of the Vir - gin's womb.  
 Light and life to all he brings, risen with heal - ing in his wings;

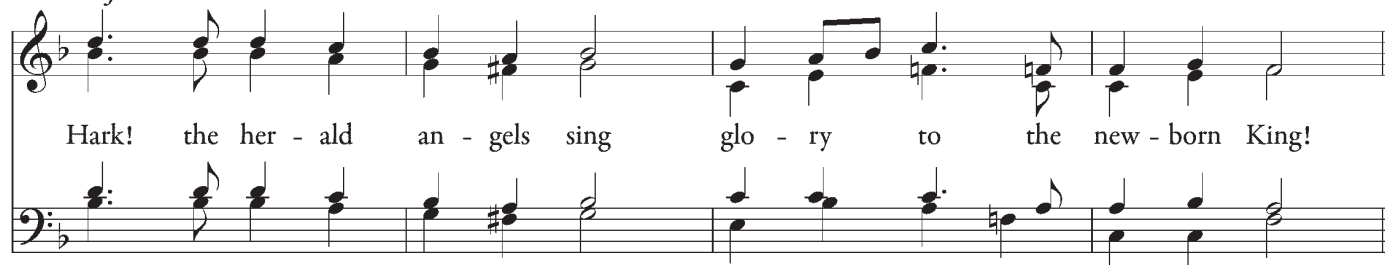


Joy - ful, all ye na - tions, rise, join the tri - umph of the skies;  
 Veiled in flesh the God - head see; hail the in - car - nate De - i - ty.  
 Mild he lays his glo - ry by, born that we no more may die,



with the an - gel - ic host pro - claim Christ is born in Beth - le - hem!  
 Pleased as man with us to dwell: Je - sus, our Em - man - u - el!  
 born to raise us from the earth, born to give us sec - ond birth.

## *Refrain*



Hark! the her - ald an - gels sing glo - ry to the new - born King!



## THE DISMISSAL

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

## ORGAN POSTLUDE

*Final, from Symphony No. 1*

Louis Vierne (1870-1937)



*A gift in celebration of Christ's birth is made to the glory of God  
and in thanksgiving for the  
William Carter Dulin and Maurine Stuart Dulin families.*

## CHRISTMAS DAY ORGAN RECITAL

1:30 PM

Join us on Christmas Day as Washington National Cathedral organists,  
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familiar holiday favorites on the Cathedral's great organ.

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The Reverend Canon Kelly Brown Douglas  
*Canon Theologian*

The Reverend Andrew K. Barnett  
*Associate for Worship and Music*

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*Director of Music*

The Reverend Benjamin Pearce Straley  
*Organist and Associate Director of Music*

George Fergus  
*Assistant Organist*

Dr. Edward M. Nassor  
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*Head Usher*  
Angela Wilson  
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INTERCESSOR

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HIGH ALTAR: in memory of Hibbard G. James; HIGH ALTAR SANCTUARY CANDELABRA: in loving memory of Charles and Mary Russell Bounds; ST. MARY'S CHAPEL ALTAR: in memory of Mr. and Mrs. Larz Anderson, and in loving memory of Robert Marsden Goodchild and the Reverend and Mrs. Norman Egerton; ST. MARY'S CHAPEL GATES: in memory of Stephen M. Walsh; HOLY SPIRIT CHAPEL ALTAR: in memory of Ann Wilson, and in memory of Vernon Holleman and Cathie Burke; ST. JOHN'S CHAPEL ALTAR: in thanksgiving for the Charles Ray Long family and friends; ST. JOHN'S PRINCE TOMB: in honor of Norman Prince; CHILDREN'S CHAPEL ALTAR: in memory of Wayne Evan Matejik; THE 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; CHILDREN'S CHAPEL FONT: with thanksgiving for the Captains and volunteers of the Flower Guild of Washington National Cathedral; 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: in memory of J. Clifford Folger and Kathrine Dulin Folger; WOODROW WILSON TOMB: in thanksgiving for Mark Bean; 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, and in memory of Michael Byrne; PRINCE TOMB CRYPT: in honor of Frederick Henry Prince and Abigail Norman Prince; GOOD SHEPHERD CHAPEL ALTAR: in memory of Wayne and Gee Wood; RESURRECTION CHAPEL ALTAR: in thanksgiving for the Charles Ray Long family and friends; ST. JOSEPH'S CHAPEL COLUMBARIUM GATES: in memory of and thanksgiving for the Seferlis and Tidball families; USHERS' CARNATIONS: in memory of Lieutenant James Norbert Matthews.

COVER: The Virgin Mary and the Christ Child from the Epiphany Window in Bethlehem Chapel. Designed by John W. Lisle; installed, 1912.

Photo by Danielle E. Thomas.



Massachusetts and Wisconsin Aves, NW  
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