

The Holy Eucharist

The Third Sunday of Advent December 11, 2016 • 11:15 am

Washington National Cathedral

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

THE ENTRANCE RITE

CARILLON PRELUDE

Il gregge e l'angelo-The Flock and the Angel from Novena di Natale per campane

Nino Rota (1911-1979)

ORGAN PRELUDE

Toccata in F, BWV 540

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

ADVENT RESPONSORY

Michael McCarthy (b. 1966)

I look from afar: and lo, I see the Power of God coming, and a cloud covering the whole earth. Go ye out to meet him and say: Tell us, art thou he that should come to reign over thy people Israel? High and low, rich and poor, one with another, Go ye out to meet him and say: Hear, O thou Shepherd of Israel, thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep, tell us, art thou he that should come? Stir up thy strength, O Lord, and come to reign over thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. (*Matin Responsory for Advent I*)

The people stand and face the Advent Wreath.

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Blessed are you, O Lord our God, ruler of the universe. Your prophets spoke of a day when the desert would blossom and waters would breathe forth in the wilderness. Bless us as we light the candles on this wreath. Strengthen our hearts as we prepare for the coming of the Lord, that he may give water to all who thirst, for he is our light and salvation. Amen.

PROCESSIONAL HYMN • 72 Sung by all, standing.

Hark! the glad sound! the Savior comes

Richmond

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Blessed are you, holy and living One.
You come to your people and set them free.

COLLECT FOR PURITY

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.



THE WORD OF GOD

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. And also with you. Let us pray.

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The people are seated.

THE FIRST READING Isaiah 35:1-10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you." Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

CANTICLE 15 plainsong

My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord,

my spirit rejoices in God my Savior;

for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed:

the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.

He has mercy on those who fear him

in every generation.

He has shown the strength of his arm,

he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

He has cast down the mighty from their thrones,

and has lifted up the lowly.

He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty.

He has come to the help of his servant Israel, for he has remembered his promise of mercy, The promise he made to our fathers, to Abraham and his children for ever.

THE SECOND READING

James 5:7-10

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

The Word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

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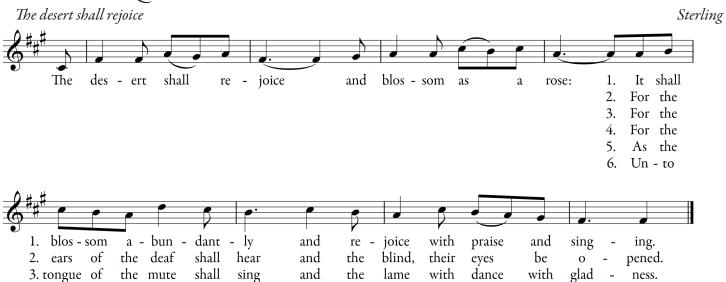
5. ran-somed re - turn

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The people stand.

HYMN AT THE SEQUENCE



THE HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 11:2-11

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

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When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?" Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me." As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, 'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.' "Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

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

THE SERMON

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

After each intercession,

Let us pray,

have mercy, O God.

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

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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 then are seated.

THE OFFERTORY

The people remain seated while an offering is received to support the Cathedral's ministry of sharing God's love with the world.

ANTHEM AT THE OFFERTORY

Never weather-beaten sail

Richard Shephard (b. 1949)

Never weather-beaten sail more willing bent to shore, never tired pilgrim's limbs affected slumber more; than my wearied sprite now longs to fly out of my troubled breast. O come quickly, sweetest Lord, and take my soul to rest. Ever-blooming are the joys of Heav'n's high Paradise, cold age deafs not there our ears, nor vapour dims our eyes; glory there the sun outshines; whose beams the blessed only see. O come quickly, glorious Lord, and raise my sprite to thee.

The people stand.

HYMN AT THE PRESENTATION • 66

Come, thou long expected Jesus

Stuttgart

The presider blesses the stewardship offering and the people respond Amen.

THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

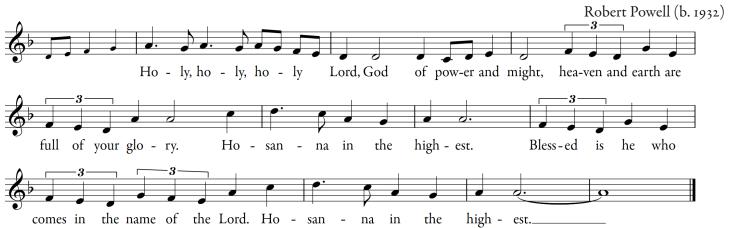
We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

The presider offers our thanks to God for the grace and mercy made available to us in Christ, and in response the people sing:

SANCTUS & BENEDICTUS



The presider gives thanks to God for the reconciling work of Christ's passion and resurrection and prays over the bread and wine.

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.

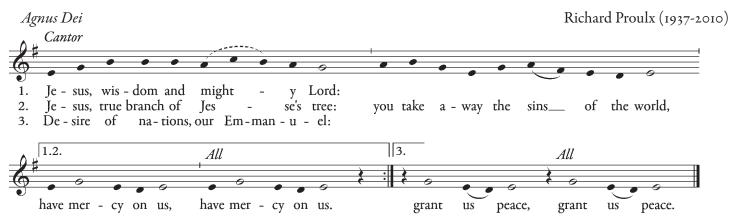
In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where John the Baptist, with Peter and Paul, our patrons, and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn 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. **AMEN**.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

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 people are seated.

THE INVITATION TO 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.

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

ANTHEM DURING THE COMMUNION

Rejoice in the Lord

attr. John Redford (c. 1500-1547)

Rejoice in the Lord always and again I say: rejoice. Let your softness be known unto all men; the Lord is even at hand. Be careful for nothing: but in all prayer and supplication, let your petitions be manifest unto God with giving of thanks. And the peace of God which passeth all understanding keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus. Amen. (*Philippians 4:4-7*)

The people stand.

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 the people respond, Amen.

CLOSING HYMN • 65

Prepare the way, O Zion

Bereden väg för Herran

THE DISMISSAL

As we await our coming Savior, go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Thanks be to God.

ORGAN VOLUNTARY Fantasia in G minor, BWV 542

J. S. Bach

CHRISTMAS 2016 SERVICES

DECEMBER 23

A Service of Christmas Lessons and Carols Friday, December 23 | 6 pm

Passes Required

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DECEMBER 24

A Service of Christmas Lessons and Carols Saturday, December 24 | 6 pm

Passes Required

Christmas Eve Festival Holy Eucharist Saturday, December 24 | 10 pm

Passes Required

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DECEMBER 25

Christmas Day Festival Holy Eucharist Sunday, December 25 | 11:15 am

Passes NOT required. This is the only service on Christmas Day.

Christmas Day Organ Recital Sunday, December 25 | 1:30 pm

Please visit: cathedral.org/christmas for a listing of special Advent and Christmas offerings, including pass information.

WORSHIP LEADERS The Very Reverend Randolph Marshall Hollerith, The Reverend Canon Kelly Brown Douglas, The Reverend Canon Jan Naylor Cope, The Reverend Canon John L. Peterson

ADVENT GREENS GIFTS The Advent greens throughout the Cathedral are given to the glory of God. Advent wreath at the mid-nave: in loving memory of Sarah Stewart Scarborough; Advent wreath in St. Mary's Chapel: in Thanksgiving; Advent wreath in Bethlehem Chapel: in memory of Joan Sager Vandemark; greens at the Holy Spirit Chapel altar: in memory of Father Elmer Francis; greens at the Bethlehem Chapel altar: in honor of the anniversary of Janie Leigh Wall Carter and the Reverend Wilson Rosser Carter.



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