

from our fears and sins re - lease us, let us find our rest in thee.
 dear de - sire of ev - ery na - tion, joy of ev - ery long - ing heart.
 born to reign in us for ev - er, now thy gra - cious king - dom bring.
 by thine all - suf - fi - cient mer - it raise us to thy glo - rious throne.

Opening Sentence

Officiant

In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord, make straight in the desert a highway for our God. *Isaiah 40:3*

Confession of Sin

Officiant

Let us confess our sins to God.

Silence may be kept.

Officiant and People

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.

Absolution/Prayer for Forgiveness

The Officiant says

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen us in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep us in eternal life. *Amen.*

The Invitatory and Psalter

Officiant O God let our mouth proclaim your praise.

People And your glory all the day long.

All Praise to the holy and undivided Trinity, one God:
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Officiant Our God and Savior now draws near:

People O come let us worship.

Venite

Psalm 95 1-7

Said in unison

O come, let us sing unto the Lord; *

let us shout for joy to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before God's presence with thanksgiving; *

and raise to the Lord a shout with psalms.

For you are a great God; *

you are great above all Gods.

In your hand are the caverns of the earth; *

and the heights of the hills are yours also.

The sea is yours, for you made it; *

and your hands have molded the dry land.

Come, let us worship and bend the knee, *

and kneel before the LORD our Maker.

For you are our God; *
 and we are the people of your pasture, and the sheep of your hand. *
 Oh, that today we would hearken to your voice!

Officiant Our God and Savior now draws near:
 People O come let us worship.

Standing, as able, all sing

The Song of Mary *Magnificat - Canticle 15*

Scottish Melody, arr. By David Haas

VERSES



1. My _____ soul is filled with joy _____ as I
 2. I am low - ly as a child, _____ but I
 3. I pro - claim the pow'r of God, _____ you do
 4. To the hun - gry you give food, _____ send the
 5. In your love you now ful - fill _____ what you



1. sing to God my sav - ior: you have looked up + on your
 2. know from this day for - ward that my name will be re -
 3. mar - vels for your ser - vants; though you scat - ter the proud
 4. rich a - way _____ emp - ty. In your mer - cy you are
 5. prom - ised to your peo - ple. I will praise you, Lord, my



1. ser - vant, you have vis - it - ed your peo - ple.
 2. mem - bered, for _____ all will call me bless - ed.
 3. heart - ed and de - stroy the might of princ - es.
 4. mind - ful of the peo - ple you have cho - sen.
 5. sav - ior, ev - er - last - ing is your mer - cy.

REFRAIN

The musical score is written in treble clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. It consists of four staves. The first staff is labeled 'Melody' and 'Em'. The second staff has a 'D' chord above it. The third staff has 'G' and 'Em' chords above it. The fourth staff has 'D' and 'G' chords above it. The lyrics are: 'And ho - ly is your name through all gen - er - a - tions! Ev - er - last - ing is your mer - cy to the peo - ple you have cho - sen, and ho - ly is your name.' There is a '(Keybd)' label under the first staff of the fourth line. The score ends with a double bar line and a repeat sign.

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Text: Luke 1:46-55, David Haas, b.1957; Tune: WILD MOUNTAIN THYME, Irregular; Irish traditional; arr. by David Haas, b.1957 © 1989, GIA Publications, Inc.

The Lessons

First Reading: Micah 5:2-5a

Reader: A Reading from the Book of Micah

You, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,
who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old,
from ancient days.

Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labor has brought forth;
then the rest of his kindred shall return
to the people of Israel.
And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord,
in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.
And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth;
and he shall be the one of peace.

A Song of the Wilderness

Isaiah 3: 5:1-7, 10

Said in unison

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, *
the desert shall rejoice and blossom:
It shall blossom abundantly, *
and rejoice with joy and singing.
They shall see the glory of the Lord, *
the majesty of our God.
Strengthen the weary hands, *
and make firm the humble knees.
Say to the anxious, "Be strong and do not fear! *
Here is your God, coming with justice to save you."
Then shall the eyes of the blind be opened, *
and the ears of the deaf be unstopped.
Then shall the lame 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 ransomed of God shall return with singing,*
with everlasting joy upon their heads.
Joy and gladness shall be theirs,*
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

A period of silence is kept.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People: Thanks be to God.

Second Reading: Hebrews 10:5-10

Reader: A Reading from Hebrews

When Christ came into the world, he said,

"Sacrifices and offerings you have not desired,
but a body you have prepared for me;

in burnt offerings and sin offerings
you have taken no pleasure.

Then I said, 'See, God, I have come to do your will, O God'
(in the scroll of the book it is written of me)."

When he said above, "You have neither desired nor taken pleasure in sacrifices and offerings and burnt offerings and sin offerings" (these are offered according to the law), then he added, "See, I have come to do your will." He abolishes the first in order to establish the second. And it is by God's will that we have been sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ once for all.

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People: Thanks be to God.

A period of silence is kept.

A Song of the Spirit

Revelation 22:12-17

“Behold, I am coming soon,” says the Lord,
“and bringing my reward with me, *
to give to everyone according to their deeds.
“I am the Alpha and the Omega, the first and the last, *
the beginning and the end.”

Blessed are those who do God’s commandments,
that they may have the right to the tree of life, *
and may enter the city through the gates.

“I, Jesus, have sent my angel to you, *
with this testimony for all the churches.

“I am the root and the offspring of David, *
I am the bright morning star.”

“Come!” say the Spirit and the Bride; *

“Come!” let each hearer reply!

Come forward, you who are thirsty, *
let those who desire take the water of life as a gift

(In Morning Prayer, all remain seated while the Gospel is read by a layperson.)

Gospel: Luke 1:39-45 (46-55)

Reader: A reading from the Gospel according to Luke

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth.

When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me?"

For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord."

[And Mary said,

"My soul magnifies the Lord,
and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,
for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant.
Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed;
for the Mighty One has done great things for me,
and holy is his name.
His mercy is for those who fear him
from generation to generation.
He has shown strength with his arm;
he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts.
He has brought down the powerful from their thrones,
and lifted up the lowly;
he has filled the hungry with good things,
and sent the rich away empty.
He has helped his servant Israel,
in remembrance of his mercy,
according to the promise he made to our ancestors,
to Abraham and to his descendants forever."]

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

People: Thanks be to God.

A period of silence is kept.

Sermon

Diane Rooney

The Apostles' Creed

Officiant and People together, standing as able

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth;

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord.
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
He is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

The Prayers

Officiant God be with you.

People And also with you.

Officiant Let us pray.

Said in unison

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your Name, your kingdom come, your will be done,
on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive
those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the
kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. *Amen.*

Suffrages

V. Help us, O God our Savior;

R. Deliver us and forgive us our sins.

V. Look upon your congregation;

R. Give to your people the blessing of peace.

V. Declare your glory among the nations;

R. And your wonders among all peoples.

V. Do not let the oppressed be shamed and turned away;

R. Never forget the lives of your poor.

V. Continue your loving-kindness to those who know you;

R. And your favor to those who are true of heart.

V. Satisfy us by your loving-kindness in the morning;

R. So shall we rejoice and be glad all the days of our life.

The Collect of the Day

Said in unison

Purify our conscience, Almighty God, by your daily visitation, that your Son Jesus Christ, at his coming, may find in us a mansion prepared for himself; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. *Amen.*

A Collect for Peace

Said in unison

O God, the author of peace and lover of concord, to know you is eternal life and to serve you is perfect freedom: Defend us, your humble servants, in all assaults of our enemies; that we, surely trusting in your defense, may not fear the power of any adversaries; through the might of Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

A Collect for Mission

Said in unison

Almighty and everlasting God, by whose Spirit the whole body of your faithful people is governed and sanctified:

Receive our supplications and prayers which we offer before you for all members of your holy Church, that in their vocation and ministry they may truly and devoutly serve you; through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. *Amen.*

Office/Offertory Hymn

Creator of the stars of night

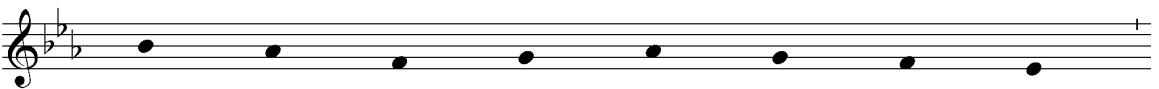
Hymnal 60



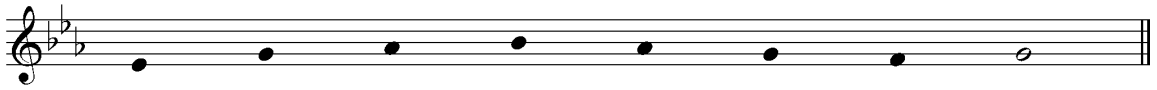
1 Cre - a - tor of the stars of night,
 2 In sor - row that the an - cient curse
 3 When this old world drew on toward night,
 4 At your great Name, O Je - sus, now
 5 Come in your ho - ly might, we pray,
 * 6 To God the Fa - ther, God the Son,



1 your peo - ple's ev - er - last - ing light,
 2 should doom to death a u - ni - verse,
 3 you came; but not in splen - dor bright,
 4 all knees must bend, all hearts must bow:
 5 re - deem us for e - ter - nal day;
 6 and God the Spi - rit, Three in One,



1 O Christ, Re - deem - er of us all,
 2 you came, O Sa - vior, to set free
 3 not as a mon - arch, but the child
 4 all things on earth with one ac - cord,
 5 de - fend us while we dwell be - low
 6 praise, hon - or, might, and glo - ry be



1 we pray you hear us when we call.
2 your own in glo - rious li - ber - ty.
3 of Ma - ry, blame - less mo - ther mild.
4 like those in heaven, shall call you Lord.
5 from all as - saults of our dread foe.
6 from age to age e - ter - nal - ly.

Prayers of the People

We remember in our Diocesan Cycle of Prayer, The Ministry of Green Mountain on line Abbe, the Rev. adwoa Wilson, Vicar for Discipleship and Formation, Clergy in Charge of the Abbey; and in our Anglican Cycle of Prayer, we remember The Church of the Province of Uganda.

Silence

We give thanks for all who celebrate birthdays or anniversaries this week, especially those we now name...

Silence

We pray for those who are sick or have asked for our prayers, especially those we now name...

Silence

We pray for those who have died, remembering especially those we now name...

Silence

I invite your additional prayers of thanksgiving and intercession at this time.

Silence

Concluding Collect

Almighty and eternal God, ruler of all things in heaven and on earth: mercifully accept the prayers of your people, and strengthen us to do your will; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen*

Dismissal

Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Concluding Sentence

The Officiant says

Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine: Glory to God from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus for ever and ever. *Amen* Ephesians 3:20,21

Sending Hymn

Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!

Hymnal 438



1 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of the Lord!
2 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of his Name!
3 Tell out, my soul, the great-ness of his might!
4 Tell out, my soul, the glo-ries of his word!



Un - num - bered bless - ings give my spi - rit voice;
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
Powers and do - min - ions lay their glo - ry by.
Firm is his prom - ise, and his mer - cy sure.



ten - der to me the prom - ise of his word;
his mer - cy sure, from age to age the same;
Proud hearts and stub - born wills are put to flight,
Tell out, my soul, the great - ness of the Lord



in God my Sa - vior shall my heart re - jice.
his ho - ly Name— the Lord, the Might - y One.
the hun - gry fed, the hum - ble lift - ed high.
to chil - dren's chil - dren and for ev - er - more!

Postlude

Announcements

Calendar

Today: Coffee Hour in the McClure Room

Tomorrow (Monday): Inter-parish Advent program online at 7:00 p.m.

Tuesday: Christmas Eve Holy Eucharist, with Special Guest Musicians, at 4:00 p.m.!

Next Sunday, The First Sunday after Christmas Day: Lessons and Carols of Christmas at 9:30 a.m.

Next Book Group: Tuesday January 7 at 5:00 p.m., online