

THE HOLY EUCHARIST
The Third Sunday of Advent



DECEMBER 15, 2024
10:00 AM

THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY OF THE HARBOR
PROVINCETOWN



Where the Land, the Sea, and the Sacred Meet

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Welcome

Choral Prelude

Wait for the Lord

Taizé

Please join the choir as we take time to prepare for this Eucharist.



Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.



Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

Gathering Hymn:

Canticle of the Turning

GC 2 #527



1. My soul cries out with a joy - ful shout that the
2. Though I am small, my God, my all, you
3. From the halls of power to the for - tress tower, not a
4. Though the na - tions rage from age to age, we re -



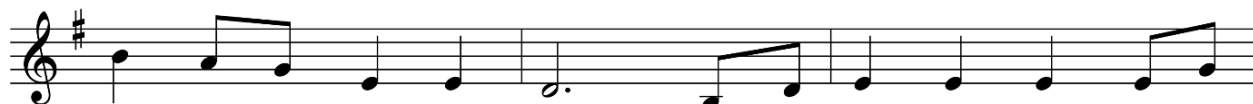
God of my heart is great, And my spir - it sings of the
work great things in me, And your mer - cy will last from the
stone will be left on stone. Let the king be - ware for your
mem - ber who holds us fast: God's mer - cy must de -



won - drous things that you bring to the ones who
depths of the past to the end of the age to
jus - tice tears ev - 'ry ty - rant from his
liv - er us from the con - quer - or's crush - ing



wait. You fixed your sight on your ser - vant's plight, and my
 be. Your ver - y name puts the proud to shame, and to
 throne. The hun - gry poor shall weep no more, for the
 grasp. This sav - ing word that our fore - bears heard is the



weak - ness you did not spurn, So from east to west shall my
 those who would for you yearn, You will show your might, put the
 food they can nev - er earn; There are ta - bles spread, ev - 'ry
 prom - ise which holds us bound, 'Til the spear and rod can be

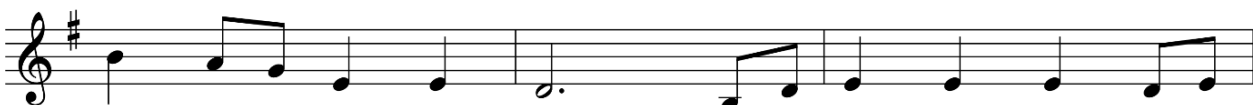


name be blest. Could the world be a - bout to turn?
 strong to flight, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 mouth be fed, for the world is a - bout to turn.
 crushed by God, who is turn - ing the world a - round.

Refrain



My heart shall sing of the day you bring. Let the



fires of your jus - tice burn. Wipe a - way all tears, for the



dawn draws near, and the world is a - bout to turn!

Opening Acclamation

Presider: Blessed are you, holy and living One.

People: **You come to your people and set them free.**

Lighting of the Advent Wreath

Dear Friends,

The time of Advent is upon us. Let us recall how Christ's coming was proclaimed by all the prophets; how the virgin mother bore him in her womb with love beyond all telling; and how John the Baptist was his herald and made him known when at last he came.

The Advent wreath candles are lit

Penitential Rite

Presider: Coming together as God's family, with confidence let us ask for pardon and forgiveness, for God is full of gentleness and compassion.

All:

**God of all mercy,
We confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in each other,
in ourselves, and in the world you have created.
We repent of the evil that enslaves us,
the evil we have done,
and the evil done on our behalf.
Forgive, restore, and strengthen us
through our Savior Jesus Christ,
that we may abide in your love
and serve only your will. Amen.**

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

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

Collect of the day

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Presider: 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.**

First Reading: *Zephaniah 3:14-20*

A Reading from the Book of the Prophet Zephaniah

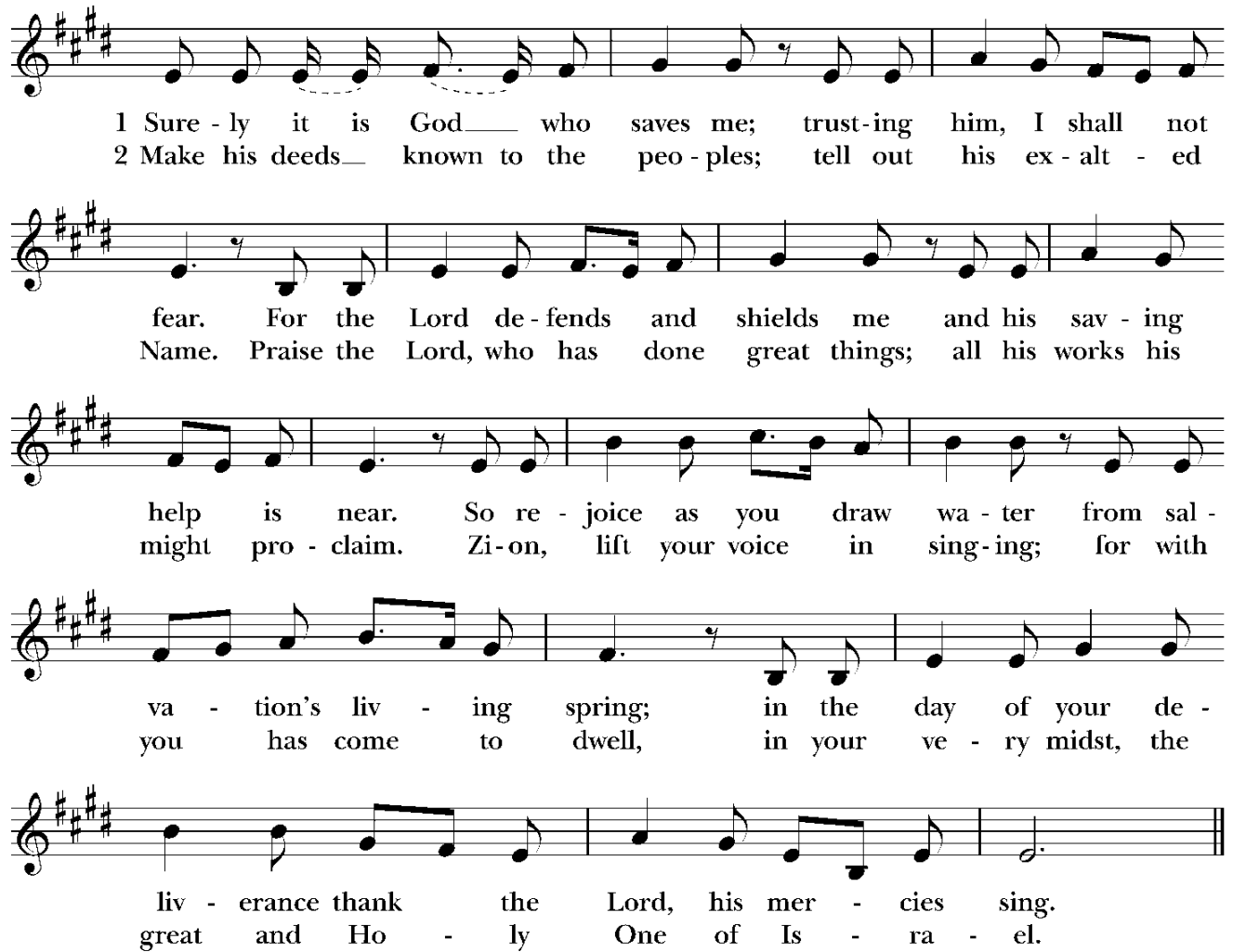
Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

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

Thanks be to God.

Canticle 9: Isaiah 12:2-6

Remain seated for the canticle



1 Sure - ly it is God — who saves me; trust - ing him, I shall not
2 Make his deeds — known to the peo - ples; tell out his ex - alt - ed
fear. For the Lord de - fends and shields me and his sav - ing
Name. Praise the Lord, who has done great things; all his works his
help is near. So re - joice as you draw wa - ter from sal -
might pro - claim. Zi - on, lift your voice in sing - ing; for with
va - tion's liv - ing spring; in the day of your de -
you has come to dwell, in your ve - ry midst, the
liv - erance thank the Lord, his mer - cies sing.
great and Ho - ly One of Is - ra - el.

Second Reading: Philippians 4:4-7

A Reading from the Letter of Paul to the Philippians

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

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

Thanks be to God.

Hal - le - lu - ia, hal - le - lu - ia,
hal - le - lu - ia, hal - le - lu - ia!

Gospel: *Luke 3:7-18*

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

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

The Gospel of the Lord.
Praise to You, Lord Christ.

Sermon

The Rev. Elisabeth "Liz" Tunney

The Creed

I Believe In God Almighty

WLP #768

Presider: Let our hearts and minds be stirred as we pray to God for the peace that passes understanding and rejoice in the gift of Christ.

For peace in the church: May we intensify our efforts at peace-making with the separated churches, that peace may prevail over conflict, and that we may be reconciled into one family, exercising one baptism, one eucharist, and one common ministry in its many forms.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For peace in the world: May conflicts cease, may refugees and survivors find new homes and the spirit to begin again. May wounds be healed, losses grieved, and honorable deeds remembered. May grace abound in all lands and may the lion and the lamb lie content.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For this assembly: That the world may know us by our love. Help us with the grievances we harbor within our families and communities and among our co-workers and friends. Help us build trust and teach us forgiveness that we might know reconciliation in your love.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For peace where we live, work and play, and for peace within ourselves: May the noises in and around us diminish so that we can hear the quiet sounds of Creation. And grant us time and space to listen for you, our heart's true desire.

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For all those who suffer, may we be messengers of hope, peace, and healing. Especially we pray for: Stella Mae Bird, Mark Ward, Richard Keeling, Joan Boudreau, Ken Barry, Towanda deNagy, Priscilla McChesney, Ollie Ahmuty, Joan Walter, Chelsea Diaz, Steve Moore, Nick Craciun, William Goodbody, John Kelly, and all those listed on our Parish Prayer List. And for those who are known to us in our hearts, those known only to you, and for those whose names are spoken on our lips: *(You are invited to offer your own intentions aloud or silently).*

Lord in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

For those who are gone and beyond our reach, fill the empty spots in our hearts and souls with reassurance of your love for them and fill them also with the hope of our reuniting someday in your eternal kingdom. We remember all those who have loved ones who will be missing at Christmas and in whose memory the sanctuary lamp is lit, and those we name aloud. *(You are invited to offer your own intentions either out loud or silently.)* Lord in your mercy, **Hear our prayer.**

Closing Collect:

O Lord, fill our minds and hearts with everything that is good and loving and worthy of thanksgiving and praise, everything that comes to us under the sign of your peace and in the name of Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

The prayers are concluded with hymn # 608, verse 1

**Eternal Father, strong to save, whose arm hath bound the restless wave,
who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep its own appointed limits keep:
O hear us when we cry to thee for those in peril on the sea.**

The Peace

Presider: The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Birthday and Anniversary Blessings

Please consider supporting our parish

Would you like to make a gift to support the Church of St. Mary of the Harbor? All you need is your phone! Use the following QR code to make your gift.



LITURGY OF THE TABLE

Invitation:

Walk in love, as Christ loved us and gave himself for us, an offering and sacrifice to God.

Preparation of the Table

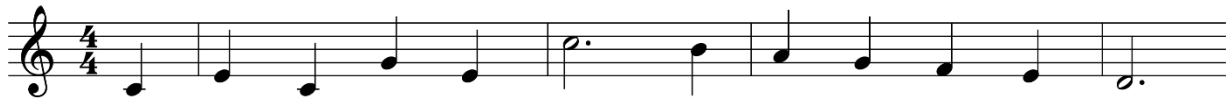
Vom Himmel hoch da komm ich her

F. Marpurg (1718-1795)

Presentation of the Gifts

Rejoice the Lord is King

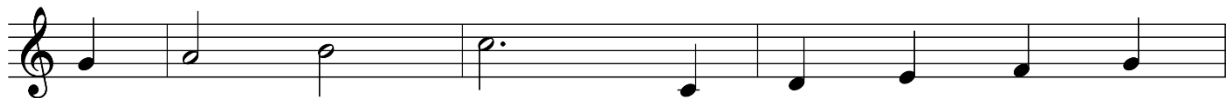
GC2 #493



1. Re - joice, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King a - dore!
2. The Lord, our Sav - ior, reigns, The God of truth and love;
3. His king - dom can - not fail, He rules o'er earth and heav'n;
4. Re - joice in glo - rious hope! Our Lord the judge shall come



Re - joice, give thanks, and sing, And tri - umph ev - er - more:
When he had purged our sins, He took his seat a - bove:
The keys of death and hell Are to our Je - sus giv'n:
And take his ser - vants up To their e - ter - nal home:



Lift up your heart, lift up your voice! Re -



joice, a - gain I say, re - joice!

Text: Charles Wesley, 1707-1788

Tune: DARWALL'S 148TH, 6 6 6 6 88; John Darwall, 1731-1789; harm. from *The Hymnal 1940*

The Great Thanksgiving

*Eucharistic Prayer III
(From Enriching Our Worship)*

Presider: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Presider: Lift up your hearts.

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

Presider: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

All thanks and praise are yours at all times and in all places, our true and loving God; through Jesus Christ, your eternal Word the Wisdom from on high by whom you created all things. You laid the foundations of the world and enclosed the sea when it burst out from the womb; You brought forth all creatures of the earth and gave breath to humankind. Wondrous are you, Holy One of Blessing, all you create is a sign of hope for our journey;

And so, as the morning stars sing your praises, we join the heavenly beings and all creation as we shout with joy:

Sanctus

Hymnal #S130

SATB harmony can be found in the hymnal

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and
 might. Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord,
 God of pow'r and might. Heav - en and earth are
 full, full of your glo - ry. Ho -
 san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the
 high - est. Bless - ed is he who comes
 in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the
 high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Glory and honor are yours, Creator of all, your Word has never been silent; you called a people to yourself, as a light to the nations, you delivered them from bondage and led them to a land of promise. Of your grace, you gave Jesus to be human, to share our life, to proclaim the coming of your holy reign and give himself for us, a fragrant offering. Through Jesus Christ our Redeemer, you have freed us from sin, brought us into your life, reconciled us to you, and restored us to the glory you intend for us.

We thank you that on the night before he died for us Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, gave it to his friends and said: "Take, eat, this is my Body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me." After supper Jesus took the cup of wine, said the blessing, gave it to his friends and said: "Drink this, all of you: this cup is the new Covenant in my Blood, poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sin. Do this for the remembrance of me."

And so, remembering all that was done for us: the cross, the tomb, the resurrection and ascension, longing for Christ's coming in glory, and presenting to you these gifts your earth has formed and human hands have made, we acclaim you, O Christ:

Christ has died, Christ is ris - en, Christ will
 come a - gain. Christ has died, Christ is
 ris - en, Christ will come a - gain.

Send your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts of bread and wine that they may be to us the Body and Blood of your Christ. Grant that we, burning with your Spirit's power, may be a people of hope, justice and love. Giver of Life, draw us together in the Body of Christ, and in the fullness of time gather us with Blessed Mary and all your people into the joy of our true eternal home.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, we worship you our God and Creator in voices of unending praise. Blessed are you now and for ever:

A - men, A - men, A - men, A - men, A - men.

The Lord's Prayer

Traditional Form

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

**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

Presider: We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

People: We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

Fraction Anthem:

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

The first system of music features a treble and bass clef with a key signature of one sharp (F#). The melody is written in the treble clef, and the accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: "Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us."

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

The second system of music continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us."

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:

The third system of music continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:"

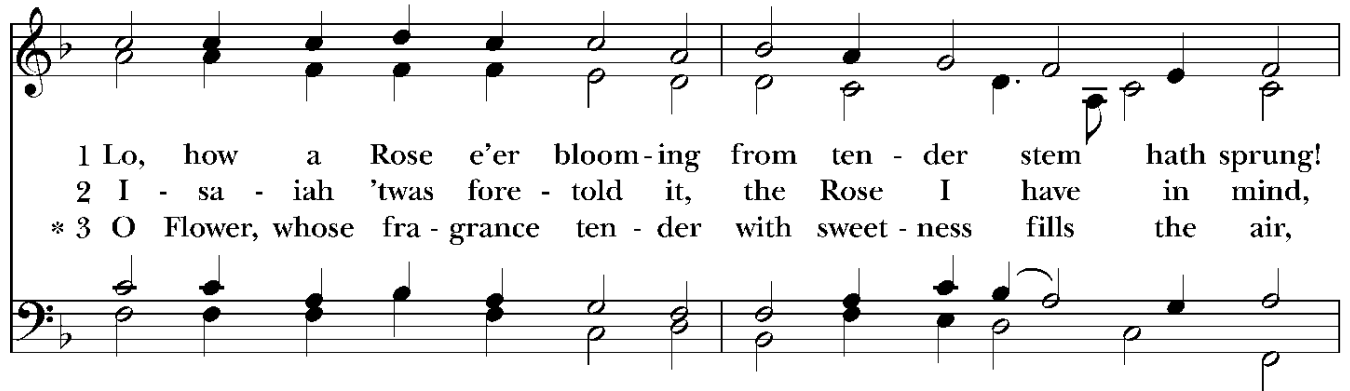
give us your peace, give us your peace.

The fourth system of music concludes the piece. The lyrics are: "give us your peace, give us your peace."

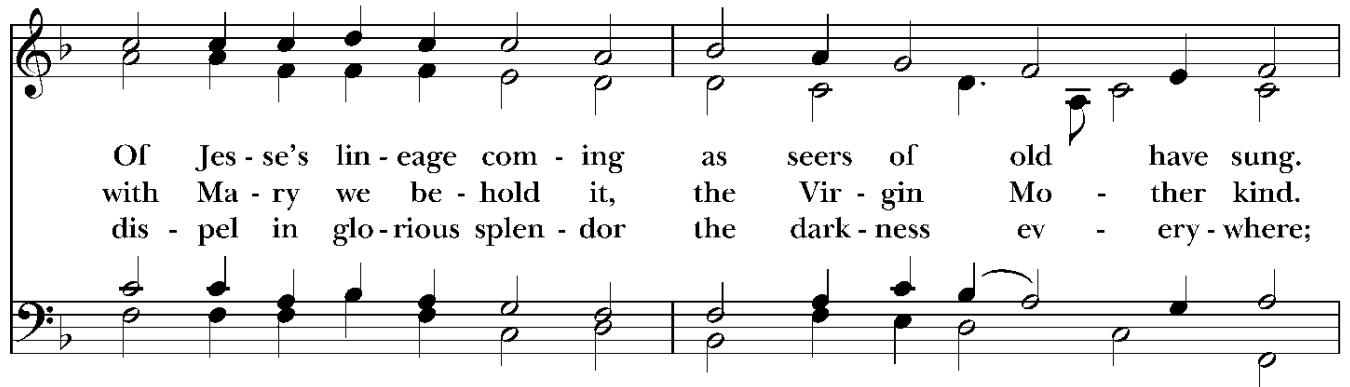
Music: From *Deutsche Messe*; Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Adaptation: Copyright © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc.

Invitation to Communion

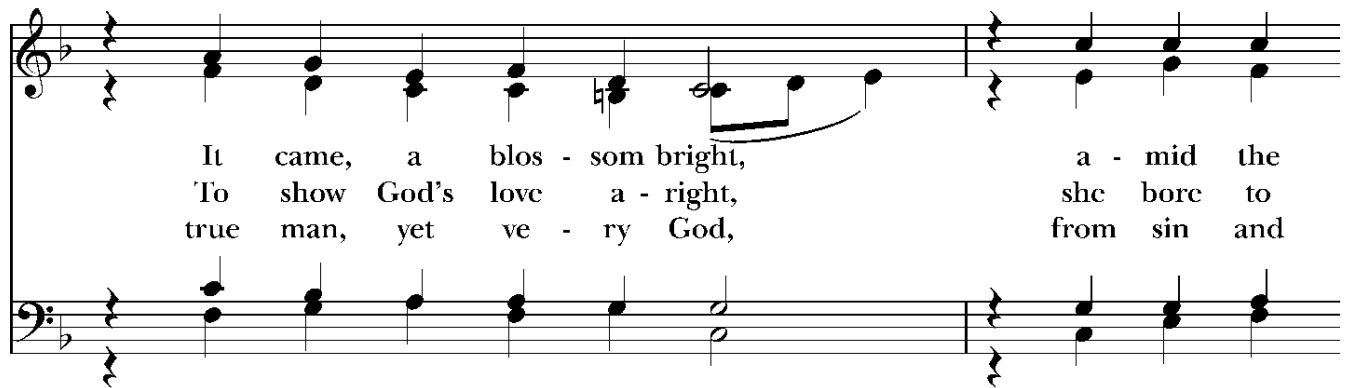
The gifts of God for the People of God. Holy Food for a Holy People.



1 Lo, how a Rose e'er bloom-ing from ten - der stem hath sprung!
 2 I - sa - iah 'twas fore - told it, the Rose I have in mind,
 * 3 O Flower, whose fra - grance ten - der with sweet - ness fills the air,



Of Jes - se's lin - eage com - ing as seers of old have sung.
 with Ma - ry we be - hold it, the Vir - gin Mo - ther kind.
 dis - pel in glo - rious splen - dor the dark - ness ev - ery - where;



It came, a blos - som bright, a - mid the
 To show God's love a - right, she bore to
 true man, yet ve - ry God, from sin and



cold of win - ter, when half spent was the night.
 us a Sa - vior, when half spent was the night.
 death now save us, and share our ev - ery load.

Post Communion Prayer

From "Strength for the Journey"

A Litany of Mary of Nazareth

Presider: Glory to you, God our Creator: **Breathe into us new life, new meaning.**

Glory to you, God our Savior: **Lead us in the way of peace and justice.**

Glory to you, healing Spirit: **Transform us to empower others.**

Litanist: Mary, wellspring of peace: **Be our guide.**

Model of strength: **Be our guide.**

Model of gentleness: **Be our guide.**

Model of trust: **Be our guide.**

Model of courage: **Be our guide.**

Model of patience: **Be our guide.**

Model of risk: **Be our guide.**

Model of perseverance: **Be our guide.**

Mary, mother of the liberator: **Pray for us.**

Mother of the homeless: **Pray for us.**

Mother of the dying: **Pray for us.**

Mother of the nonviolent: **Pray for us.**

Widowed mother: **Pray for us.**

Unwed mother: **Pray for us.**

Mother of a political prisoner: **Pray for us.**

Mother of the condemned: **Pray for us.**

Mother of the executed criminal: **Pray for us.**

Mother of the Risen Christ: **Pray for us.**

The Blessing

Presider: May the blessing of the God of Abraham and Sarah, and of Jesus Christ born of our sister Mary, and of the Holy Spirit, who broods over the world as a mother over her children, be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Recessional

People Look East

WLP #724

Dismissal

Deacon: Go in the Peace of Christ.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

Veni Emmanuel

Martha Sobaje (b. 1948)

Join us for Coffee Hour in Nicholson Hall immediately following the service.

All are welcome!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

A special reception for Bill Carlson

Next weekend marks Bill Carlson's final Sunday as St. Mary's music director. Join us for a festive coffee hour after church. This will be a chance to show your appreciation for his ministry among us. Bill's final service will be Christmas Eve!

Winter Lunches

Winter lunches for our hungry neighbors will be offered on Saturdays in January and February. Your help is welcome. A sign-up sheet is located on the credenza near the bulletin board.

A Commitment to Outreach – Thanksgiving/Christmas Appeal

This year the Outreach Committee voted and approved by the Vestry to designate 100% of this offering to Lower Cape Outreach Council. This 40-year-old 501c3 organization is based in Orleans providing short-term emergency food, clothing and financial assistance to residents of the 8 towns that constitute Lower Cape Cod: Brewster, Chatham, Eastham, Harwich, Orleans, Provincetown, Truro, and Wellfleet. Place your gift in the collection plate on Sundays between now and Christmas, payable to St Mary of the Harbor, designated on the memo line to Thanksgiving/Christmas 2024. Donations may also be made on our website.

Giving Tree:

We have two "Giving Trees" in Nicholson Hall. You can make a gift to the Homeless Prevention Council through a QR code on the smaller tree. You can also give to Helping Our Women (HOW) with a contribution for Stop & Shop Gift Cards. HOW plans on giving 350 women \$20 gift cards. Your gift of \$10 will be equally matched by Stop & Shop.

Christmas at St. Mary's

Christmas Eve, Tuesday, December 24th: 5:00 PM

Christmas Day, Wednesday, December 25th: 10:00 AM

We will "green" the church following the service on Sunday, December 22nd.

Christmas Flowers

If you would like to make a Christmas flower donation in memory of a loved one, or in thanksgiving for some blessing, please let the Church Office know by noon on Friday, December 20th. You may do this by emailing the Church Office at smothoffice@gmail.com, or by calling 508-487-2622. You may also donate directly through REALM by going to our parish website and selectin "Christmas Flowers" in the dropdown menu.

Christmas Communion

If you, or someone you know in the parish, would like to receive Christmas Communion at home, please contact the parish office or one of the Clergy. We will be glad to come visit and bring you communion.

Parish Prayer List

In addition to the names listed in the Prayers of the People, we pray for healing and comfort for:

Family and Friends: Roger Ashe, Joan Russell, Jim Neely and Ann English, Kent Taylor, Margo Kent, Michael Mason, Donna Pickener, Marcia McClure, Marsha Davies, Carol Studley, Marge and Donna, Patty Davenport, Scotty Townsend, Barbara Crawford, Christian Hagerty, Steven Moore, Barbara Hammond, Elizabeth Mason

A.A. Support Groups

Nicholson Hall: Monday 7:00 P.M.; Tuesday 6:00 P.M.; Wednesday 6:30 P.M.

UU Food Pantry

On the first Sunday of each month, we collect donations for the "Little Free Pantry" hosted by our friends at the Unitarian Universalist Meeting House. That pantry provides non-perishable grocery and toiletry items for anyone in need. Items may be left in the basket by the baptismal font at any time. We could use additional volunteers to deliver the food. We are extending the usual first Sun of each month's ingathering of food for the UU's food bank. for an additional 2nd Sunday. Thanks for your continuing support.

Sanctuary Lamp

Memorial opportunities are available to honor a deceased love one with the sanctuary lamp. Their name will be published in the bulletin. Suggested donation: \$20. Contact the parish office to reserve the date.

Stay in touch with St. Mary's

Many of our most active members do not live here full-time. There are several ways to participate and keep in touch throughout the year: Sign our guest book with your contact information; Watch our weekly livestream on YouTube; Sign up for our Weekly e-newsletter.

Vestry Officers

Sharon Inger, Senior Warden
srwarden@stmaryoftheharbor.org

John Carroll-Yagel, Junior Warden
jrwarden@stmaryoftheharbor.org

John Loftin, Treasurer
treasurer@stmaryoftheharbor.org

Brendan O'Neill, Clerk
clerk@stmaryoftheharbor.org

Vestry Members

Mary-Jo Avellar
Kathy Bachman
Phil Franchini;
Alex Glowacki
Anita McGahan
Janet Whelan

This Sunday's Leadership

- Presider: The Rev. Elizabeth Tunney
- Crucifer: Brendan O'Neill
- First Reader (First Reading and Psalms): Priscilla Jackett
- Second Reader (Second Reading): Tim Brown
- Healer: Mary-Jo Avellar
- Ushers: Bob Crook and Peter Falconer
- Altar Guild: Lee Ann Fanning
- Livestream: John Carroll-Yagel

THE CHURCH OF ST. MARY OF THE HARBOR

517 Commercial Street, Provincetown, MA 02657

Welcome to St. Mary of the Harbor

Here at St. Mary's, we welcome you with open arms and open hearts, to share with you the love with which Christ has welcomed us. Whoever you are, wherever you may be in life, there is a place for you here. In this beautiful place, you will find sojourners like yourself who are searching for truth, meaning, and purpose. And we invite you to explore and experience the gift of God's love in this place where the land, the sea, and the sacred meet.

Everything you need to guide you through today's service will be found in this bulletin, or in the hymnals in the chair just in front of you.

Land Acknowledgement

At St. Mary's, we remember the Nauset and Wampanoag people on whose unceded land we now gather. We acknowledge the injustice done to them. We give thanks for their witness to living honorably and in balance with the sacred order. May we always remember that the Earth does not belong to us, that we belong to the Earth, and that we are all relatives in life. Help us to be instruments of justice and peace for all people in today's world, particularly the original Indigenous inhabitants.

The Rev. Brian Raiche, Rector
revbrian@stmaryoftheharbor.org
Cell: (508) 717-9002

The Rev. Bruce Mason, Deacon
Bill Carlson, Music Director

Julia Perry, Office Manager
office@stmaryoftheharbor.org

Office Hours: Tuesday (9-12), Wednesday (1-5 pm), Friday (9-12, 1-5 pm)

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www.stmaryoftheharbor.org

