



HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE TWO

The Church of St. John the Divine
9:00 am & 11:15 am — December 28, 2025

WELCOME



Welcome to St. John the Divine. We want to get to know you! Take your first step by completing a welcome card and placing it in the offering plate or scan this QR code to introduce yourself online.

Everything you need to join us in worship is found in this booklet. Hearing assistance is available. Please see an usher, who will be happy to help you!

FOR FAMILIES

Worshippers of all ages are encouraged to fully take part in all aspects of the service. Children's packets may be found in the narthex (lobby), children's Bibles are in the pews, and nursery care for children birth – age 2 is available next door in the administration building. Also available is a Church Family Room just off the narthex with comfortable furniture, toys, and a screen to view the service.

ALTAR FLOWERS

The church altar flowers are given to the glory of God. To donate altar flowers in memory, thanksgiving, or honor of someone, visit sjd.org/flower-dedications or contact Hayden Coie at 713.354.2241 or hcoie@sjd.org.

HOLY EUCHARIST, RITE TWO

9:00 am & 11:15 am — December 28, 2025

The First Sunday after Christmas — Year A

PRELUDE Once in Royal David's City

Robert Buckley Farlee *b. 1950*

HYMN 109 *Congregation stands.*

1 The first No - well the an - gel did say was to cer - tain poor
2 They look - ed up and saw a star shin - ing in the
3 And by the light of that same star three wise men
6 Then let us all with one ac - cord sing prais - es
shep - herds in fields as they lay; in fields as they lay,
east be - yond them far, and to the earth it
came from coun - try far; to seek for a king was
to our hea - ven - ly Lord; that hath made heaven and
keep - ing their sheep, on a cold win - ter's night that was so deep.
gave great light, and so it con - tin - ued both day and night.
their in - tent, and to fol - low the star wher - ev - er it went.
earth of nought, and with his blood our life hath bought.
No - well, No - well, No - well, No - well, born is the King of Is - ra - el.

Words: English carol, 18th cen.; Music: *The First Nowell*, English carol, 17th cen.

THE WORD OF GOD

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

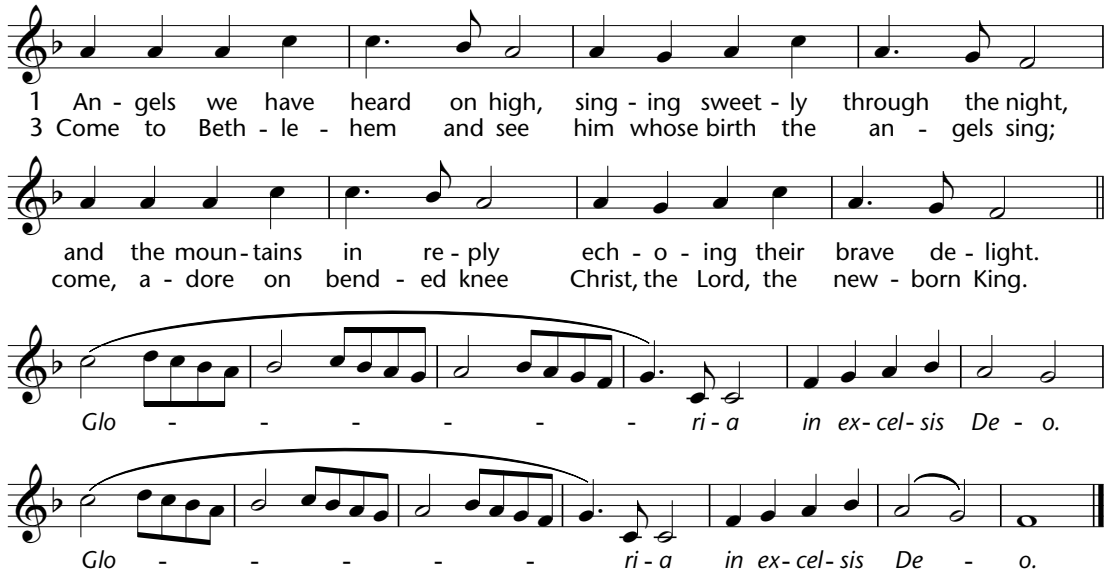
People: *And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.*

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Book of Common Prayer (BCP) 355

Celebrant: 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.*

CAROL AT THE GLORIA



1 An - gels we have heard on high, sing - ing sweet - ly through the night,
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see him whose birth the an - gels sing;
and the moun - tains in re - ply ech - o - ing their brave de - light.
come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ, the Lord, the new - born King.
Glo - - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.
Glo - - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Words: French carol, tr. James Chadwick (1813-1882); Music: *Gloria*, French carol; arr. Edward Shippen Barnes (1887-1958).

THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Let us pray.

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

THE LESSONS *Congregation sits.*

The Old Testament

Isaiah 61:10-62:3

¹⁰ I will greatly rejoice in the Lord;
my soul shall exult in my God,
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation;
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

¹¹ For as the earth brings forth its sprouts,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up,
so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise
to sprout up before all the nations.

¹ For Zion's sake I will not keep silent,
and for Jerusalem's sake I will not be quiet,
until her righteousness goes forth as brightness,
and her salvation as a burning torch.

² The nations shall see your righteousness,
and all the kings your glory,
and you shall be called by a new name
that the mouth of the Lord will give.

³ You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord,
and a royal diadem in the hand of your God.

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

- ¹³ Worship the Lord, O Jerusalem;
praise your God, O Zion;
- ¹⁴ *For he has strengthened the bars of your gates;
he has blessed your children within you.*
- ¹⁵ He has established peace on your borders;
he satisfies you with the finest wheat.
- ¹⁶ *He sends out his command to the earth,
and his word runs very swiftly.*
- ¹⁷ He gives snow like wool;
he scatters hoarfrost like ashes.
- ¹⁸ *He scatters his hail like bread crumbs;
who can stand against his cold?*
- ¹⁹ He sends forth his word and melts them;
he blows with his wind, and the waters flow.
- ²⁰ *He declares his word to Jacob,
his statutes and his judgments to Israel.*
- ²¹ He has not done so to any other nation;
to them he has not revealed his judgments.
Hallelujah!

At this time in the 9:00 am service, students in 1st to 5th grade are invited to join the Bridge Worship in the Nau Family Room. Students will return to the nave at The Peace.

Hymn 82 *Congregation stands.*



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 - wea - ried 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!

Words: Marcus Aurelius Clemens Prudentius (348-410?); Music: *Divinum mysterium*, Sanctus trope, 11th cent.; adapt. *Piae Contiones*, 1582.

The Gospel

John 1:1-18

Deacon: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John.

People: *Glory to you, Lord Christ.*

¹ In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God.

² He was in the beginning with God. ³ All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴ In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵ The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶ There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷ He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸ He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

⁹ The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰ He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹ He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹² But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to become children of God, ¹³ who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴ And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth. ¹⁵ (John bore witness about him, and cried out, “This was he of whom I said, ‘He who comes after me ranks before me, because he was before me.’”) ¹⁶ For from his fullness we have all received, grace upon grace. ¹⁷ For the law was given through Moses; grace and truth came through Jesus Christ. ¹⁸ No one has ever seen God; the only God, who is at the Father’s side, he has made him known.

Deacon: The Gospel of the Lord.

People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Sutton Lowe

THE NICENE CREED *Congregation stands.*

BCP 358

*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, *Form III revised*

BCP 387

Celebrant: Let us pray for the whole state of Christ's Church and the world.

Congregation kneels.

Leader: Father, we pray for your holy catholic Church:

People: That we all may be one.

Leader: Grant that every member of the Church may truly and humbly serve you;

People: That your Name may be glorified by all people.

Leader: We pray for this community, the nation, and the world, especially our ministry partners at Nueva Vida (Guatemala).

People: That all may work for justice, freedom, and peace.

Leader: We pray for persecuted Christians around the world and for all who are endangered for their religious beliefs.

People: That they may live in peace and safety.

Leader: We pray for all bishops, priests, and deacons;

People: That they may be faithful ministers of your Word and Sacraments.

Leader: We pray for all who govern and hold authority in the nations of the world;

People: That there may be justice and peace on the earth.

Leader: Give us grace to do your will in all that we undertake;

People: That our works may find favor in your sight.

Leader: Have compassion on John, Sally, Lisa, Bruce, Karen, Cynthia, Zoe, Andy, Ellen, Susan, Patricia, Madeleine, Alfonso, Brian, Lauren, Madeline, Temple, Bradley, Jessie, Ellen, Haynes, and all those who suffer from any grief or trouble;

People: That they may be delivered from their distress.

Leader: Give to the departed, especially Meredith Stone, Scott Thompson, Joan Reiger, and Jim Walters, eternal rest;

People: Let light perpetual shine upon them.

Leader: We praise you for your saints who have entered into joy;

People: May we also come to share in your heavenly kingdom.

Leader: Let us pray for our own needs and those of others.

The people may add their own petitions.

The Celebrant adds a concluding Collect.

THE CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

BCP 360

Celebrant: Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

Silence may be kept.

*All: 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.*

Celebrant: 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.*

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

People: *And also with you.*

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Your financial offerings fuel ministries that Change Lives for God in Christ. You may make your Sunday offering in one of two ways:

- ✂ *By placing your offering in the plate during the Offertory or*
- ✂ *By scanning the QR code with your phone.*



THE HOLY COMMUNION

THE OFFERTORY

Solo

Max Reger 1873-1916

Within the stable Mary sits and rocks her Jesus child,
On the rafters o'er them coos a dove so soft and mild.
And swaying gently, Mary sings her lullaby: "Ah, baby, dear one, slumber now!"

Happy is thy laughter, holy is thy silent rest,
Lay thy head in slumber, fondly on thy mother's breast!
Ah, baby, dear one, slumber now!

*Text: Martin Boelitz, tr. and ed. Teschemacher
Blair McLaughlin, soprano*

PRESENTATION HYMN *Congregation stands.*

1 An - gels from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er
4 Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, watch - ing long in
all hope the earth; ye, who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
and fear, sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing
now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth: come and wor - ship,
in his tem - ple shall ap - pear:
come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

Words: James Montgomery (1771-1854); Music: *Regent Square*, Henry Thomas Smart (1813-1879).

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING Eucharistic Prayer B

BCP 367

Celebrant: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Celebrant: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to the Lord.

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

People: It is right to give him thanks and praise.

Celebrant: 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 S 125

Richard Proulx

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.

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Congregation kneels.

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

On the night before he died for us, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory;

Celebrant: 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 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.*

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

People and Celebrant

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

Celebrant: Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

People: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Celebrant: The Gifts of God for the People of God.

Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

- ✦ *All baptized Christians are welcome to receive the Sacrament of Holy Communion.*
- ✦ *If you are not baptized, you are welcome to come forward for a blessing.*
- ✦ *If you are not baptized and want to be, please contact one of the clergy.*
- ✦ *Please be guided by the ushers to the communion rail.*
- ✦ *You may drink from the common chalice or intinct from the intinction cup.*
- ✦ *Gluten-free wafers are available upon request at the altar rail.*
- ✦ *After receiving communion, Prayer Ministers are present in the East Bay for prayer.*

Hymn 101

1 A - way in a man - ger, no crib for his bed,
2 The cat - tle are low - ing, the ba - by a - wakes,
3 Be near me, Lord Je - sus; I ask thee to stay

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus laid down his sweet head.
but lit - tle Lord Je - sus no cry - ing he makes.
close_ by me for ev - er, and love me I pray.

The stars in the bright sky looked down where he lay,
I love thee, Lord Je - sus! Look down from the sky,
Bless all the dear child - ren in thy ten - der care,

the lit - tle Lord Je - sus a - sleep on the hay.
and stay fit by my side un - til morn - ing is nigh.
and and us for hea - ven to live with thee there.

Words: Traditional carol; Music: *Cradle Song*, William James Kirkpatrick (1838-1921).

Hymn 78



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!
 5 O ho - ly Child of Beth - le - hem, de - scend to us we pray;

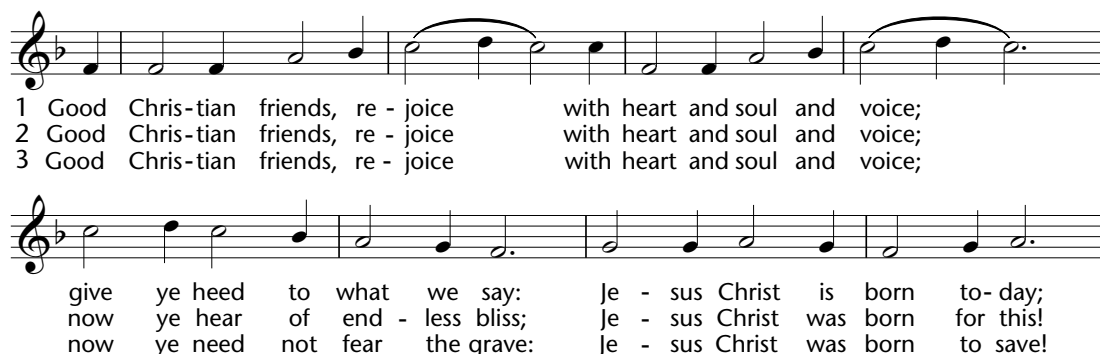
A - bove thy deep and dream - less sleep the si - lent stars go by;
 while mor - tals sleep, the an - gels keep their watch of won - dering love.
 So God im - parts to hu - man hearts the bless - ings of his heaven.
 cast out our sin and en - ter in, be born in us to - day.

yet in thy dark streets shin - eth the ev - er - last - ing Light;
 O morn - ing stars, to - geth - er pro - claim the ho - ly birth!
 No ear may hear his com - ing, but in this world of sin,
 We hear the Christ - mas an - gels the great glad tid - ings tell;

the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee to - night.
 and prais es sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.
 where meek souls will re - ceive him, still the dear Christ en - ters in.
 O come to us, a - bide with us, our Lord Em - man - u - el!

Words: Phillips Brooks (1835-1893); Music: Forest Green, English melody, adapt. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958).

Hymn 107



1 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
 2 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;
 3 Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;

give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to-day;
 now ye hear of end - less bliss; Je - sus Christ was born for this!
 now ye need not fear the grave: Je - sus Christ was born to save!



ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.
 He hath o - pened hea - ven's door, and we are blest for ev - er - more.
 Calls you one and calls you all to gain his ev - er - last - ing hall.

Christ is born to - day!
 Christ was born for this!
 Christ was born to save!

Christ is born to - day!
 Christ was born for this!
 Christ was born to save!

Words: John Mason Neale (1818-1866); Music: *In dulci jubilo*, German carol, 14th cent.

THE POST-COMMUNION PRAYER *Congregation stands.*

BCP 365

Celebrant: Let us pray.

*People: 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

Book of Occasional Services 11

Celebrant: May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one all things earthly
 and heavenly, fill you with his joy and peace; and the blessing of God Almighty, the
 Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. *Amen.*

HYMN 100

1 Joy to the world! the Lord is come: let earth re -
 2 Joy to the world! the Sa - vior reigns; let us our
 3 No more let sins and sor - rows grow, nor thorns in -
 4 He rules the world with truth and grace, and makes the

ceive her King; let ev - every heart pre - pare him room and
 songs em - ploy, while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains, re -
 fest the ground; he comes to make his bless - ings flow far
 na - tions prove the glo - ries of his right - eous - ness, and

heaven and na - ture sing, and heaven and na - ture
 peat the sound - ing joy, re - peat the sound - ing
 as the curse is found, far as the curse is
 won - ders of his love, and won - ders of his

sing, and heaven, and heaven and na - ture sing.
 joy, re - peat, re - peat the sound - ing joy.
 found, far as, far as the curse is love.
 love, and won - ders, won - ders of his love.

Words: Isaac Watts (1647-1748); Music: Antioch, George Frideric Handel (1685-1759).

THE DISMISSAL

Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia.

POSTLUDE From Heaven Above to Earth I Come

Walter Pelz *b.* 1926

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CLERGY

The Rev. Dr. R. Leigh Spruill, *Rector*
The Rev. Reagan W. Cocke, *Senior Vice Rector*
The Rev. John D. Sundara, *Vice Rector*
The Rev. Louise Samuelson, *Associate Rector*
The Rev. Trent Pettit, *Associate Rector*
The Rev. Libby Garfield, *Associate Rector*
The Rev. Dr. Douglas W. Richnow, *Priest Associate*
The Most Rev. Josiah Idowu-Fearon, *Bishop in Residence*
The Rev. Sutton Lowe, *Curate*
The Rev. Dr. Charles M. Stiernberg, *Deacon*

MUSIC AND WORSHIP STAFF

Steven A. Newberry, *Director of Music and Worship*
John Meier, *Associate Director of Music*
Anna Teagarden, *Associate Director of Music*
Grace Jackson, *Hancock Intern for Church Music*
Sarah Gividen, *Director of Modern Music*
Nick Gividen, *Associate Director of Modern Music*



THE CHURCH OF
ST JOHN THE DIVINE
CHANGING LIVES FOR GOD IN CHRIST