

Third Sunday of Advent

December 13, 2020



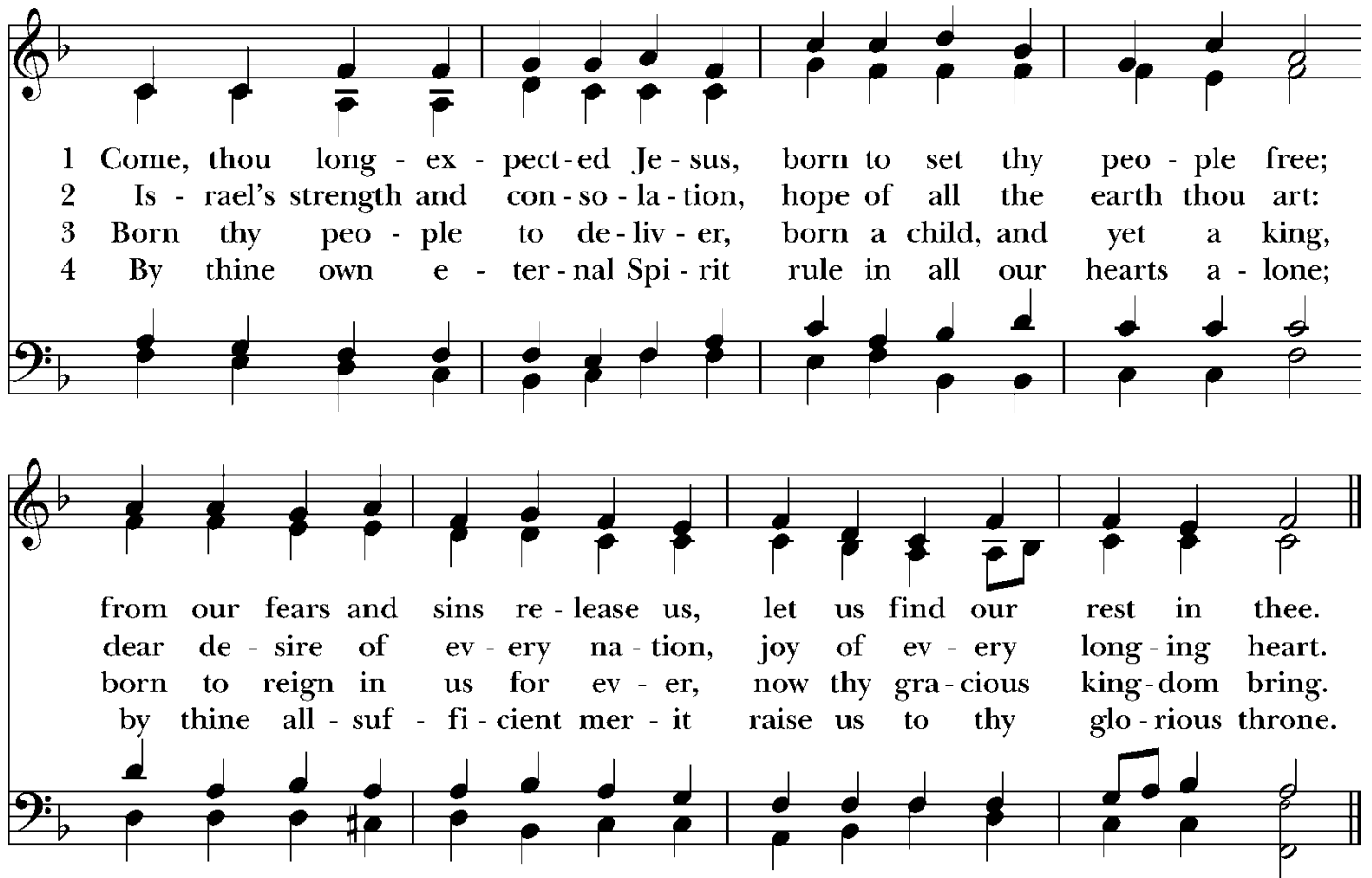
St. Cyprian's Episcopal Church

WELCOME

St. Cyprian's is a welcoming, inclusive, vibrant community of faith, where every person is invited to engage in our worship, mission, and ministry. This booklet contains all you will need for this morning's worship. Information about upcoming events, activities, and ministries are found on the Announcement page. If you are a visitor to our live-streaming service, we would be honored if you would leave your name and email address to keep you informed of news of our church and ministries. WELCOME!

PRELUDE

OPENING HYMN "Come Thou Long Expected Jesus"



1 Come, thou long - ex - pect - ed Je - sus, born to set thy peo - ple free;
2 Is - rael's strength and con - so - la - tion, hope of all the earth thou art:
3 Born thy peo - ple to de - liv - er, born a child, and yet a king,
4 By thine own e - ter - nal Spi - rit rule in all our hearts a - lone;

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.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

OPENING ACCLAMATION

Celebrant: Blessed be our God:

People: **Forever and ever. Amen.**

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 COLLECT OF THE DAY

Priest: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Priest: 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 FIRST READING:

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

¹The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; ²to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; ³to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, to display his glory. ⁴They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. ⁸For I the LORD love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. ⁹Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed. ¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being 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 with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. ¹¹For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

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

People: **Amen. Amen.**

PSALM 126

¹When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, *
then were we like those who dream.
²Then was our mouth filled with laughter, *
and our tongue with shouts of joy.
³Then they said among the nations, *
"The LORD has done great things for them."
⁴The LORD has done great things for us, *
and we are glad indeed.
⁵Restore our fortunes, O LORD, *
like the watercourses of the Negev.
⁶Those who sowed with tears *
will reap with songs of joy.
⁷Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, *
will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

THE SECOND READING:

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

¹⁶Rejoice always, ¹⁷pray without ceasing, ¹⁸give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰Do not despise the words of prophets, ²¹but test everything; hold fast to what is good; ²²abstain from every form of evil. ²³May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely;

and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

²⁴The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

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

People: **Amen. Amen.**

GRADUAL HYMN

"Savior of the Nations, Come"



1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come; vir - gin's
2 From God's heart the Sav - ior speeds; back to
3 Now your man - ger, shin - ing bright, hal - lows
4 Praise we sing to Christ the Lord, vir - gin's



son, make here your home. Mar - vel now, O
God his path - way leads; out to van - quish
night with new - born light. Night can - not this
son, in - car - nate Word! To the ho - ly



heaven and earth, that the Lord chose such a birth.
death's com - mand, back to reign at God's right hand.
light sub - due; let our faith shine ev - er new.
Trin - i - ty praise we sing e - ter - nal - ly.

THE GOSPEL:

John 1:6-8, 19-28

Priest: The Holy Gospel of our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.

People: **Glory to you Lord Christ.**

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. ⁸He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. ¹⁹This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" ²⁰He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." ²¹And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." ²²Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" ²³He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,' " as the prophet Isaiah said. ²⁴Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. ²⁵They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" ²⁶John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, ²⁷the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." ²⁸This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

Priest: The Gospel of our Lord.

People: **Amen. Amen.**

THE SERMON

FR. TED VOORHEES

A DECLARATION OF FAITH

**We believe in the one God who has created the land and sea and heavens
and all that is in them;**

who established a world that is good;

who gives to us the task of watchful and responsible care over it;

who is certainty and truth.

**We believe in the one God who in Jesus Christ assumed our humanity
and knew our life as child, youth, and adult;**

who dined with sinners and lived with the homeless;

who confronted popular opinion and power;

who remained obedient in temptation and suffering;

whose triumph was a servant's death and resurrection.

We believe in the one God who comes to us as comforter and advocate;

who does not leave us as orphans;

who brings peace and calms the troubled heart;

who bestows gifts for serving, healing, showing compassion, and doing miracles;

who alone is the power and the wisdom of our proclamation.

Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Leader: In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.

Leader: For all people in their daily life and work;

People: **For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

Leader: For this community, the nation, and the world;
People: ***For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.***

Leader: For the just and proper use of your creation;
People: ***For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.***

Leader: For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;
People: ***For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.***

Leader: For the peace and unity of the Church of God;
People: ***For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.***

Leader: For Michael our Presiding Bishop, and John our Bishop; for Fr. Ted and Pastor Deena, the clergy serving St. Cyprian's; and for all ordained and lay ministers;
People: ***For all who serve God in the Church.***

Leader: For the special needs and concerns of this congregation.
The people may add their own petitions aloud, or in the silence of their hearts

Leader: Hear us, Lord;
People: ***For your mercy is great.***

Leader: We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life.
The people may add their own thanksgivings aloud, or in the silence of their hearts

Leader: We will exalt you, O God our King;
People: ***And praise your Name for ever and ever.***

Leader: We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom.
The people may add their own prayers aloud, or in the silence of their hearts

Leader: Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;
People: ***Who put their trust in you.***

Leader: We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.
People: ***Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

Priest: 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 eternal life.
Amen.

THE PEACE

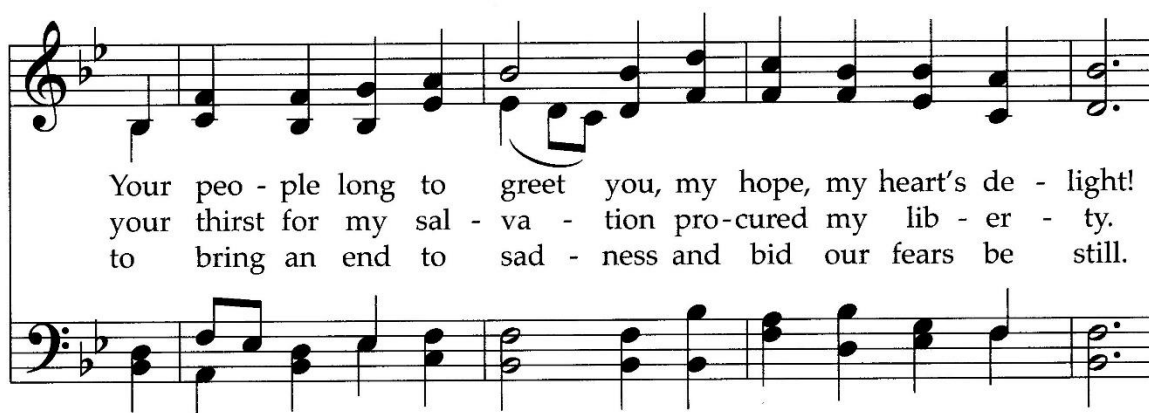
Priest: The peace of the Lord be always with you.
People: ***And also with you.***

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

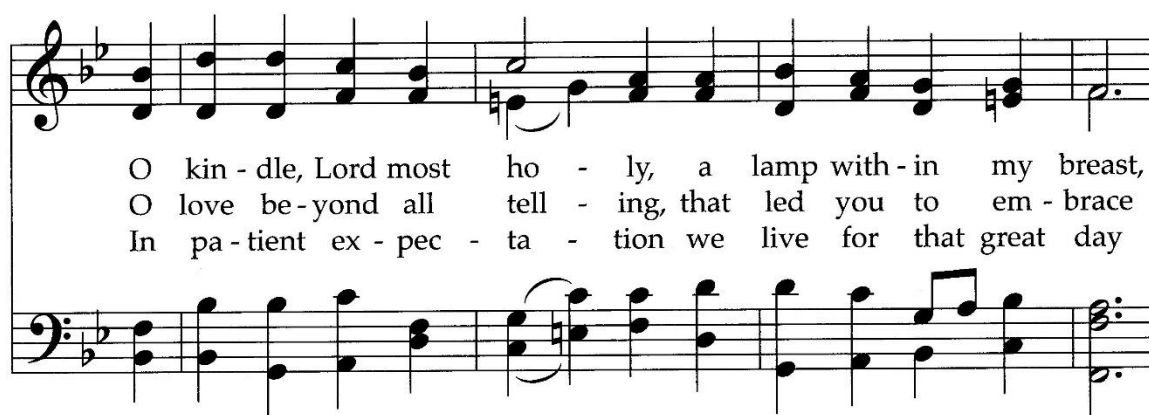
OFFERTORY HYMN "O Lord, How Shall I Meet You"



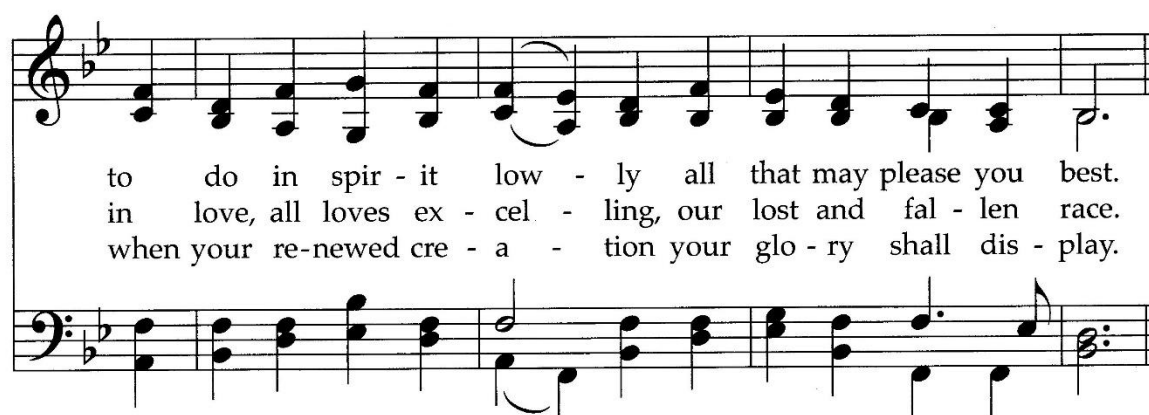
1 O Lord, how shall I meet you, how wel-come you a - right?
2 Love caused your in - car - na - tion; love brought you down to me;
3 You come, O Lord, with glad - ness, in mer - cy and good-will,



Your peo - ple long to greet you, my hope, my heart's de - light!
your thirst for my sal - va - tion pro-cured my lib - er - ty.
to bring an end to sad - ness and bid our fears be still.



O kin - dle, Lord most ho - ly, a lamp with - in my breast,
O love be - yond all tell - ing, that led you to em - brace
In pa - tient ex - pec - ta - tion we live for that great day



to do in spir - it low - ly all that may please you best.
in love, all loves ex - cel - ling, our lost and fal - len race.
when your re - newed cre - a - tion your glo - ry shall dis - play.

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

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 our thanks and praise.**

Celebrant

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant. From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing.

You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love. And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing:

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

The Celebrant continues

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine. Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice. Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with blessed Cyprian and all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

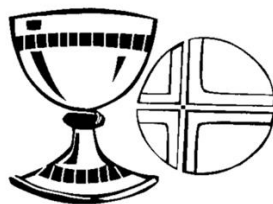
**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are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

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

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

People: ***Therefore let us keep the feast.***

Priest The Gifts of God for the People of God. Feed on them in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.



POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

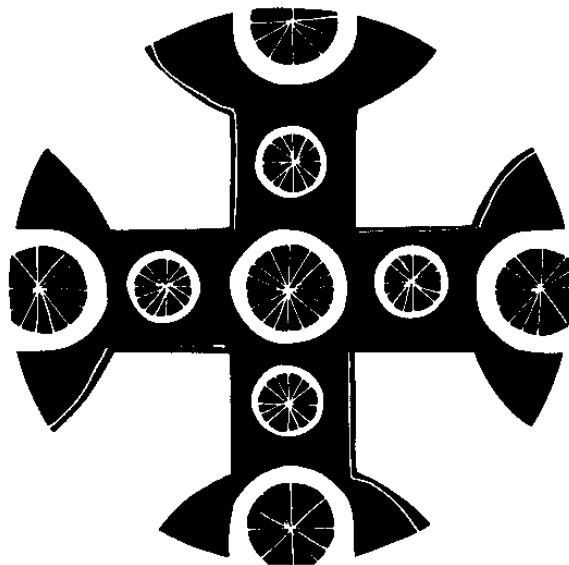
**Eternal God, heavenly Father,
you have graciously accepted us as living members
of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ,
and you have fed us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood.**

**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.**

BLESSING

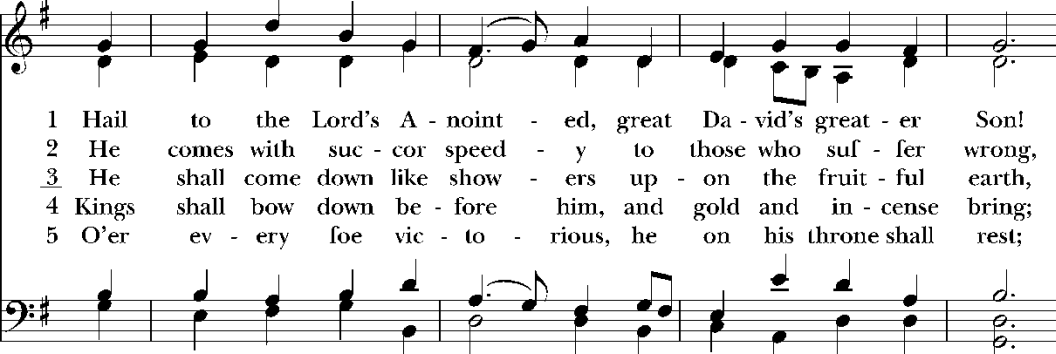
Live without fear.
Your Creator has made you holy,
has always protected you,
and loves you with a power and a presence
that is stronger than death.

May God's blessing be with you,
Christ's peace be with you,
and the Spirit's outpouring be with you,
now and always.
Amen.

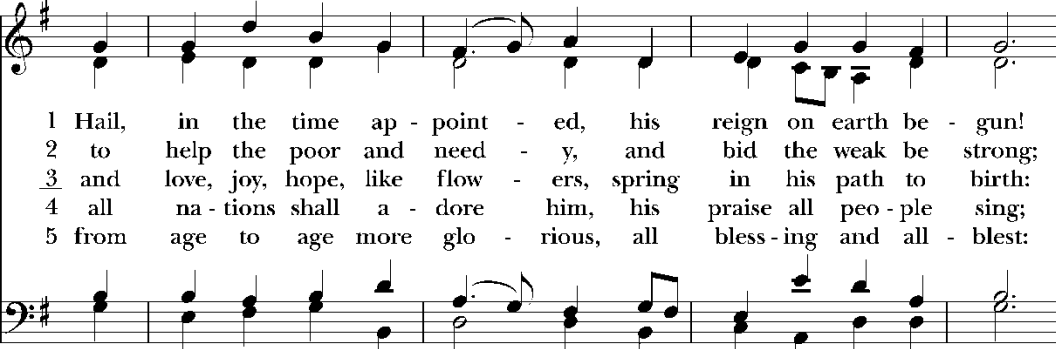


CLOSING HYMN

"Hail to the Lord's Anointed"



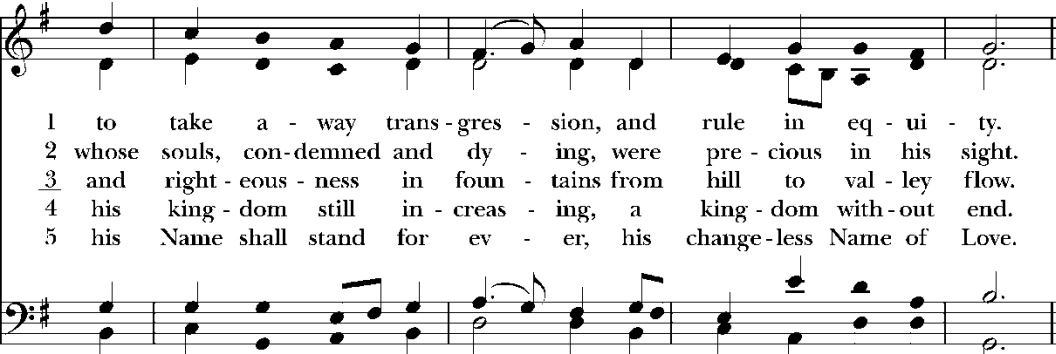
1 Hail to the Lord's A - noint - ed, great Da - vid's great - er Son!
 2 He comes with suc - cor speed - y to those who suf - fer wrong,
 3 He shall come down like show - ers up - on the fruit - ful earth,
 4 Kings shall bow down be - fore him, and gold and in - cense bring;
 5 O'er ev - ery foe vic - to - rious, he on his throne shall rest;



1 Hail, in the time ap - point - ed, his reign on earth be - gun!
 2 to help the poor and need - y, and bid the weak be strong;
 3 and love, joy, hope, like flow - ers, spring in his path to birth;
 4 all na - tions shall a - dore him, his praise all peo - ple sing;
 5 from age to age more glo - rious, all bless - ing and all - blest:



1 He comes to break op - pres - sion, to set the cap - tive free;
 2 to give them songs for sigh - ing, their dark - ness turn to light,
 3 be - fore him on the moun - tains shall peace, the her - ald, go;
 4 to him shall prayer un - ceas - ing and dai - ly vows a - scend;
 5 the tide of time shall nev - er his cov - e - nant re - move;



1 to take a - way trans - gres - sion, and rule in eq - ui - ty.
 2 whose souls, con - demned and dy - ing, were pre - cious in his sight.
 3 and right - eous - ness in foun - tains from hill to val - ley flow.
 4 his king - dom still in - creas - ing, a king - dom with - out end.
 5 his Name shall stand for ev - er, his change - less Name of Love.

DISMISSAL

Priest: Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of God's Spirit.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

About Our Worship Booklet

The worship in this booklet follows the form of **Holy Eucharist: Rite II** in the **Book of Common Prayer**. The **Declaration of Faith** is from the **Moravian Book of Worship**. The **Eucharistic Prayer** is **Prayer 2** from **Enriching Our Worship**. The readings from Holy Scripture are from **Lectionary Year B** using the **New Revised Standard Version** of the Bible.

Prayer List

We pray for those known to the people of St. Cyprian's who are ill or who have asked for our prayers: The Brisbois family, Sam McIlrath, Bill Wall, Karen & Bruce Cudworth, Margie Costas, Adelaide and Anastasia, Matt Shirer, Benedetta & Family, Elise Osako, Geordy Maish, Pat Laurencelle, Charlie Schwab, Elizabeth McGuinness, Tom Lutton, Annette Cappella, Jon Wiles, Jim Colee, Jim Lofquist, Kevin Cash and Beth.

We pray also for Ervin Bullock, Janine, Steven Piroch, Kim, Linda Parker, Nancy, Jeanette Webster, Skip Hutton, Marnie, Jeff, Johnathon Edwards, Dennis O'Neill, George Libonate, Patti Morrissey, Amanda & Jim Pasnik, Janet Sowers, Bonnie Wahiba, Violet Drayton, Shirley Jones, Foster Swann, Peter Ripley, Garrison Williams, Jonathan Bruce, Debbie Gagnon, Irma Brooks, Julie Forker, Kelli Ann Dishmon, Jim Bullock, Kris Phillips, Nancy Skadden, Ted D., Allison Paisley, Carrie C., Susie & Jeff, Catherine Martin, Liza Aston, Nury, Bill & Mary Jo Dudley.

About the Prayer List – If you would like to add someone to our Prayer List please use the form you'll find on the table near the door. And, please let us know when to take someone's name off our Prayer List.

Announcements

The Church is Open Daily for Prayer 9-4:30

Please be Mindful of Social Distancing

Dining With Dignity – THANKS

Many thanks to all who contributed food, clothing, or funds this month. We distributed food to 69 people. In addition to grab and go bags, we also handed out blankets, jackets, new hats, socks and 14-15 new sweatshirts. Weather was clear but in the 40s.

Our next Dining With Dignity is scheduled for this Tuesday, January 5

Please watch the announcements in the Voice as we make our plans during this Covid-19 coronavirus crisis.

Ecumenical Food Pantry

The Ecumenical Food Pantry is now open five days a week during this Covid-19 coronavirus crisis, and the need for food is extremely high. If you want to bring food contributions for the Ecumenical Food Pantry, the church is open for prayer daily from 9am until 4:30pm, and the food basket is just inside the door. If you would like to make a monetary contribution (each \$1 buys 5lbs. of food), please mail the check to the church and put Food Pantry in the memo line.

Zoom Meetings

Book Study – *If It Takes All Summer* by Dan Warren – MONDAYS AT 11AM

Virtual Coffee Hour – WEDNESDAYS AT 10AM

Centering Prayer – WEDNESDAYS AT 4:30PM

Book Study – *Finding Jesus, Discovering Self* by Caren Goldman and Bill Dols – THURSDAYS AT 10AM

Lessons & Carols

Sunday, December 20 at 5pm

Live-Streamed