

THE FEAST OF THE NATIVITY OF OUR LORD

CHRISTMAS DAY

December 25, 2007

10:30 a.m.

THE ENTRANCE RITE

Voluntary

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

J. S. Bach

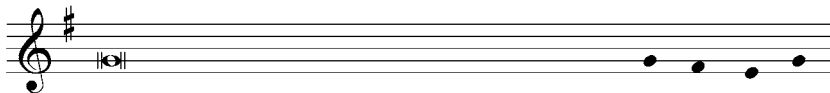
The Congregation stands as the bells are rung.

Entrance Hymn

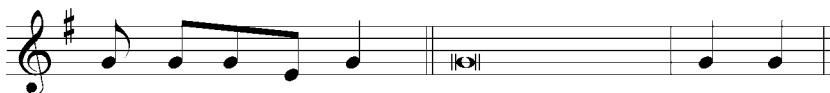
O Come, All Ye Faithful

1. O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant!
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him, born the king of angels:
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord!
2. Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heaven above!
Glory to God in the highest:
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord!
3. Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be glory giv'n!
Word of the Father, now in flesh appearing:
O come, let us adore him,
O come, let us adore him,
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord!

Apostolic Greeting and Prayer of the Day



*The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit, be with you all.*



And al - so with you. Let us pray ... A - men.

Almighty God, you wonderfully created and yet more wonderfully restored the dignity of human nature. In your mercy, let us share the divine life of Jesus Christ who came to share our humanity, and who now lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

First Lesson

Isaiah 52:7-10

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of the messenger who announces peace,
who brings good news, who announces salvation, who says to Zion, "Your God reigns."
Listen! Your sentinels lift up their voices, together they sing for joy:
for in plain sight they see the return of the Lord to Zion.
Break forth together into singing, you ruins of Jerusalem;
for the Lord has comforted his people, he has redeemed Jerusalem.
The Lord has bared his holy arm before the eyes of all the nations;
and all the ends of the earth shall see the salvation of our God.

Psalm 98 (paraphrase)

Joy to the World

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive its King;
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room and heav'n and nature sing ...
2. Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,
While fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy ...
3. No more let sin and sorrow grow nor thorns infest the ground;
He comes to make his blessings flow far as the curse is found ...
4. He rules the world with truth and grace and makes the nations prove
The glories of his righteousness and wonders of his love ...

Second Lesson

Hebrews 1:1-4

Long ago God spoke to our ancestors in many and various ways by the prophets, but in these last days he has spoken to us by a Son, whom he appointed heir of all things, through whom he also created the worlds. He is the reflection of God's glory and the exact imprint of God's very being, and he sustains all things by his powerful word. When he had made purification for sins, he sat down at the right hand of the Majesty on high, having become as much superior to angels as the name he has inherited is more excellent than theirs.

The Congregation stands.

Gradual Hymn

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice

1. Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
Give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today;
Ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now.
Christ is born today! Christ is born today!
2. Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice;
Now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!
He has opened heaven's door, and we are blest for evermore.
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

3. Hail! The heav'n-born Prince of Peace! Hail the sun of righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, ris'n with healing in his wings.
Mild he lays his glory by, born that we no more may die,
Born to raise each child of earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! The herald angels sing, "Glory to the new-born king!"

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 worshipped 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

Prayers

Each petition concludes with one of the following responses:

Send forth your light: **Hear our prayer.**

Let us bless the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

THE LITURGY OF THE EUCHARIST

Sharing of Peace

Solo

The Congregation stands.

Offertory Hymn

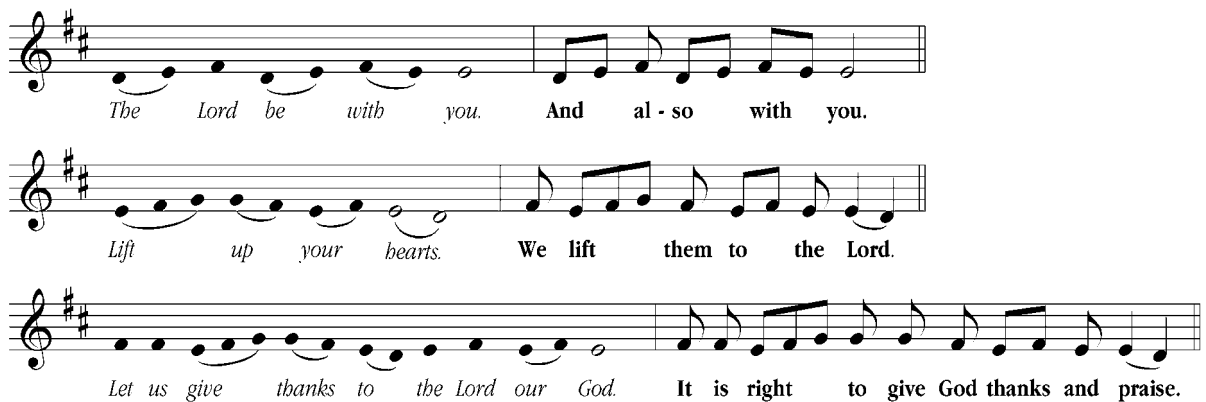
Angels, from the Realms of Glory

1. Angels, from the realms of glory, wing your flight o'er all the earth;
Ye who sang creation's story, now proclaim Messiah's birth:
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the new-born king.
2. All creation, join in praising God, the Father, Spirit, Son,
Evermore your voices raising to th'-eternal Three in One.
Come and worship, come and worship, worship Christ, the new-born king.

Offertory Prayer

Good and loving God, **we rejoice in the birth of Jesus, who came among the poor to bring the riches of your grace. As you have blessed us with your gifts, let them be blessing for others. With the trees of the field, with all earth and heaven, we should for joy at the coming of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen**

The Great Thanksgiving



The Lord be with you. And al - so 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.

Eucharistic Prayer

This prayer, attributed to Hippolytus of Rome in the early 3rd century, was developed before the Preface and the Sanctus were introduced into the liturgy.

We give you thanks, Father, through Jesus Christ, your beloved Son, whom you sent in this end of the ages to save and redeem us and to proclaim to us your will.

He is your Word, inseparable from you. Through him you created all things, and in him you take delight.

He is your Word, sent from heaven to a virgin's womb. He there took on our nature and our lot and was shown forth as your Son, born of the Holy Spirit and of the virgin Mary.

It is he, our Lord Jesus, who fulfilled all your will and won for you a holy people; he stretched out his hands in suffering in order to free from suffering those who trust you.

It is he who, handed over to a death he freely accepted, in order to destroy death, to break the bonds of the evil one, to crush hell underfoot, to give light to the righteous, to establish his covenant, and to show forth the resurrection, taking bread and giving thanks to you, said:

Take and eat: this is my body, broken for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

In the same way he took the cup, gave thanks, and gave it for all to drink, saying:

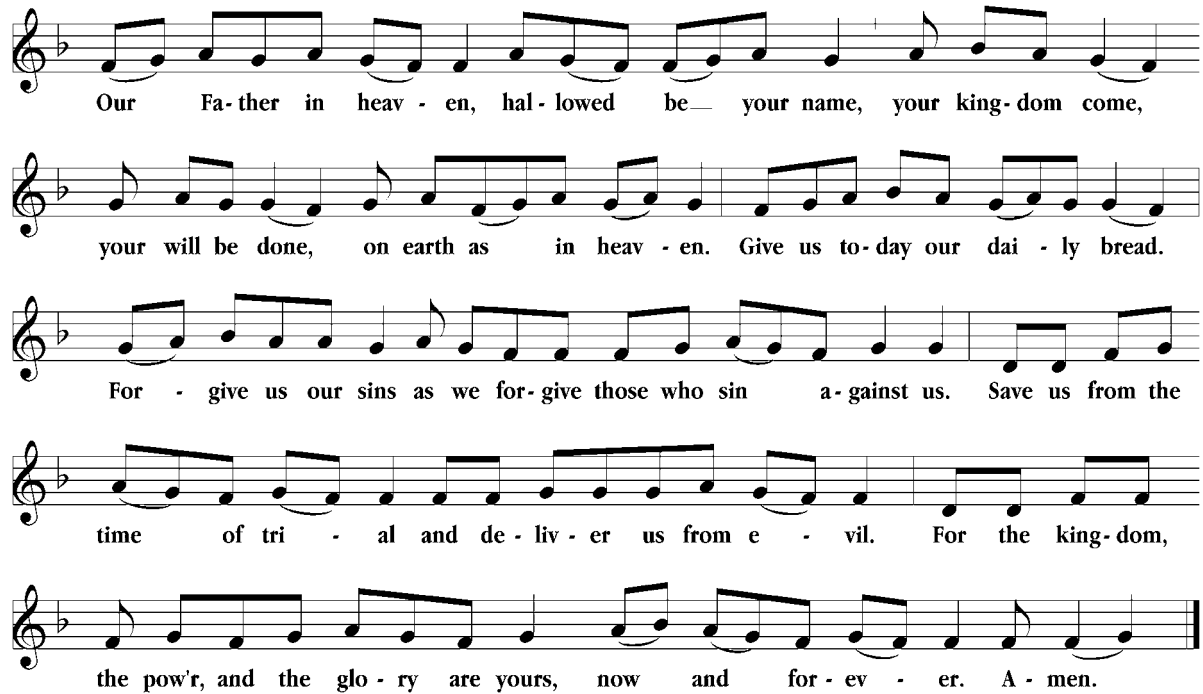
This is my blood poured out for you. Do this for the remembrance of me.

Remembering, then, his death and resurrection, we lift this bread and cup before you, giving you thanks that you have made us worthy to stand before you and to serve you as your priestly people.

And we ask you: Send your Spirit upon these gifts of your Church; gather into one all who share this bread and wine; fill us with your Holy Spirit to establish our faith in truth, that we may praise and glorify you through your Son Jesus Christ.

Through him all glory and honor are yours, Almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit, in your holy Church both now and forever. **Amen**

The Lord's Prayer



Our Fa-ther in heav - en, hal - lowed be— your name, your king - dom come,
your will be done, on earth as in heav - en. Give us to - day our dai - ly bread.
For - give us our sins as we for - give those who sin a - gainst us. Save us from the
time of tri - al and de - liv - er us from e - vil. For the king - dom,
the pow'r, and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - ev - er. A - men.

The Distribution of the Blessed Sacrament

All Christians are invited to receive the Sacrament.

Non-communicants are invited to come forward to receive a blessing

Hymn

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

1. Infant holy, infant lowly, for his bed a cattle stall;
Oxen lowing, little knowing Christ the child is Lord of all.
Swiftly winging, angels singing, bells are ringing, tidings bringing:
Christ the child is Lord of all! Christ the child is Lord of all!
2. Flocks were sleeping, shepherds keeping vigil till the morning new
Saw the glory, heard the story, tidings of a Gospel true.
Thus rejoicing, free from sorrow, praises voicing, greet the morrow:
Christ the child was born for you! Christ the child was born for you!

Hymn

Away in a Manger

1. Away in a manger, no crib for his bed, the little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head;
the stars in the sky looked down where he lay, the little Lord Jesus asleep on the hay.
2. The cattle are lowing; the poor baby wakes, but little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus; look down from the sky and stay by my cradle till morning is nigh.
3. Be near me, Lord Jesus: I ask thee to stay close by me forever and love me, I pray.
Bless all the dear children in thy tender care and take us to heaven to live with thee there.

THE POST-COMMUNION

The Congregation stands.

Eucharistic Blessing

Nunc dimittis

Lord, bid your servant go in peace, your word is now fulfilled.
These eyes have seen salvation's dawn, this child so long foretold.
This is the Savior of the world, the Gentiles' promised light,
God's glory dwelling in our midst, the joy of Israel.

Prayer

Merciful God, renew us by your Holy Spirit, poured out richly in this meal, and renew all creation with your lovingkindness until all the ends of the earth rejoice in your salvation; through Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. **Amen**

Benediction

Hymn

Go Tell It on the Mountain

*Go tell it on the mountain, over the hills and ev'rywhere;
Go tell it on the mountain that Jesus Christ is born!*

1. While shepherds kept their watching o'er silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens there shone a holy light.
2. The shepherds feared and trembled when, lo, above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus that hailed our Savior's birth.
3. Down in a lonely manger the humble Christ was born;
And God sent us salvation that blessed Christmas morn.

Dismissal

Go in peace.
Your light has come.
Thanks be to God.

Voluntary

Joy to the World

Wilbur Held

Servants at God's Altar

Christmas Eve

Celebrant and Preacher	Norm Theiss
Deacon I	George Krafthofer
Deacon II	Eileen Crawford
Lectors	Kathy Garrison Robert Bass, Jr. Grace Fenton Esther Rege Norm Theiss
Organist and Choirmaster	Dr. J. Thomas Mitts
The Parish Choir	
Vocal Soloists	LeeAnn Hart Betsy Miller
Thurifer	Douglas Anderson
Crucifer	Paul Beddoe
Bookbearer	David Juilfs
Torchbearers	Nichole Wade Nicole Hoffman
Ushers	Alan Sutherland Josephine Allen Robert Bennett Salome Burton Renee Ivery John Shutt
Altar Guild	Alice Anderson Salome Burton Marilynn Olson
Tellers	John McKirgan Ruth Hunter Tom VandenBosch

Christmas Day

Celebrant and Preacher	Norm Theiss
Deacon and Lector	Douglas Anderson
Deacon II	Eileen Crawford
Organist	Dr. J. Thomas Mitts
Vocal Soloist	Betsy Miller
Altar Guild	Alice Anderson Salome Burton Marilynn Olson
Tellers	John McKirgan Ruth Hunter Tom VandenBosch