



MORNING PRAYER, RITE I

PRELUDE Chorale Prelude No 1 Puer Nobis Nascitur

Healey Willan

OPENING HYMN 124

Puer nobis

Unison or harmony

1 What star is this, with beams so bright, more beau - teous
 2 True spake the pro - phet from a - far who told the
 3 The guid - ing star a - bove is bright; with - in them
 4 O Je - sus, while the star of grace im - pels us
 5 To God the Fa - ther, heaven - ly Light, to Christ, re -

1 than the noon - day light? It shines to her - ald
 2 rise of Ja - cob's star; and east - ern sa - ges
 3 shines a clear - er light, and leads them on with
 4 on to seek thy face, let not our sloth - ful
 5 vealed in earth - ly night, to God the Ho - ly

1 forth the King, and Gen - tiles to his crib to bring.
 2 with a - maze up - on the won - drous to - ken gaze.
 3 power be - nign to seek the Giv - er of the sign.
 4 hearts re - fuse the guid - ance of thy light to use.
 5 Ghost we raise our e - qual and un - ceas - ing praise.

Words: Charles Coffin (1676-1749); tr. *Hymns Ancient and Modern*, 1861, after John Chandler (1807-1876), alt.
 Music: *Puer nobis*, melody from Trier MS., 15th cent.; adapt. Michael Praetorius (1571-1621); harm. *Cowley Carol Book*, 1902

OPENING SENTENCE

BCP p. 37

Behold, I bring you good tidings of a great joy, which shall be to all people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, which is Christ the Lord.

Officiant: Let us humbly confess our sins unto Almighty God.

Officiant and People together,

Almighty and most merciful Father,
 we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep,
 we have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts,
 we have offended against thy holy laws,
 we have left undone those things which we ought to have done,
 and we have done those things which we ought not to have done.
 But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us,
 spare thou those who confess their faults,
 restore thou those who are penitent,
 according to thy promises declared unto mankind in Christ Jesus our Lord;
 and grant, O most merciful Father, for his sake,
 that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life,
 to the glory of thy holy Name. Amen.

The Officiant alone says

The Almighty and merciful Lord grant us absolution and remission of all our sins, true repentance, amendment of life, and the grace and consolation of his Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

INVITATORY

Officiant: O Lord, open thou our lips.

People: And our mouth shall show forth thy praise.

All: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

ANTIPHON Alleluia. Unto us a child is born: O come, let us adore him. Alleluia.

VENITE (said in unison)

O come, let us sing unto the Lord; *
 let us heartily rejoice in the strength of our salvation.
 Let us come before his presence with thanksgiving, *
 and show ourselves glad in him with psalms.
 For the Lord is a great God, *
 and a great King above all gods.
 In his hand are all the corners of the earth, *
 and the strength of the hills is his also.
 The sea is his and he made it, *
 and his hands prepared the dry land.
 O come, let us worship and fall down *
 and kneel before the Lord our Maker.
 For he is the Lord our God, *
 and we are the people of his pasture
 and the sheep of his hand.

O worship the Lord in the beauty of holiness; *
let the whole earth stand in awe of him.
For he cometh, for he cometh to judge the earth, *
and with righteousness to judge the world
and the peoples with his truth.

ANTIPHON Alleluia. Unto us a child is born: O come, let us adore him. Alleluia.

PSALM 84 (said in unison)

Led by Clarine Johnson

- 1 How dear to me is your dwelling, O Lord of hosts! *
My soul has a desire and longing for the courts of the Lord;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.
- 2 The sparrow has found her a house
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young; *
by the side of your altars, O Lord of hosts,
my King and my God.
- 3 Happy are they who dwell in your house! *
they will always be praising you.
- 4 Happy are the people whose strength is in you! *
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.
- 5 Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs, *
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.
- 6 They will climb from height to height, *
and the God of gods will reveal himself in Zion.
- 7 Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer; *
hearken, O God of Jacob.
- 8 Behold our defender, O God; *
and look upon the face of your Anointed.
- 9 For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room, *
and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God
than to dwell in the tents of the wicked.
- 10 For the Lord God is both sun and shield; *
he will give grace and glory;
- 11 No good thing will the Lord withhold *
from those who walk with integrity.
- 12 O Lord of hosts, *
happy are they who put their trust in you!
Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Thus says the Lord:
 Sing aloud with gladness for Jacob,
 and raise shouts for the chief of the nations;
 proclaim, give praise, and say,
 "Save, O Lord, your people,
 the remnant of Israel."
 See, I am going to bring them from the land of the north,
 and gather them from the farthest parts of the earth,
 among them the blind and the lame, those with child and
 those in labor, together;
 a great company, they shall return here.
 With weeping they shall come,
 and with consolations I will lead them back,
 I will let them walk by brooks of water,
 in a straight path in which they shall not stumble;
 for I have become a father to Israel,
 and Ephraim is my firstborn.
 Hear the word of the Lord, O nations,
 and declare it in the coastlands far away;
 say, "He who scattered Israel will gather him,
 and will keep him as a shepherd a flock."
 For the Lord has ransomed Jacob,
 and has redeemed him from hands too strong for him.
 They shall come and sing aloud on the height of Zion,
 and they shall be radiant over the goodness of the Lord,
 over the grain, the wine, and the oil,
 and over the young of the flock and the herd;
 their life shall become like a watered garden,
 and they shall never languish again.
 Then shall the young women rejoice in the dance,
 and the young men and the old shall be merry.
 I will turn their mourning into joy,
 I will comfort them, and give them gladness for sorrow.
 I will give the priests their fill of fatness,
 and my people shall be satisfied with my bounty,
 says the Lord.

CANTICLE 5 – THE SONG OF SIMEON (said in unison)

BCP p. 51

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, *
 according to thy word;
 For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, *
 which thou hast prepared before the face of all people,
 To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, *
 and to be the glory of thy people Israel.
 Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
 as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen.

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through Jesus Christ, according to the good pleasure of his will, to the praise of his glorious grace that he freely bestowed on us in the Beloved.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe.

CANTICLE 6 – GLORY BE TO GOD (said in unison)

BCP p. 52

Glory be to God on high,
and on earth peace, good will towards men.

We praise thee, we bless thee,
we worship thee,
we glorify thee,
we give thanks to thee for thy great glory,
O Lord God, heavenly King, God the Father Almighty.

O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sins of the world,
have mercy upon us.

Thou that takest away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer.

Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father,
have mercy upon us.

For thou only art holy,
thou only art the Lord,
thou only, O Christ,
with the Holy Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

THE GOSPEL **Matthew 2:1-23**

Read by Kelli Emerson

In the time of King Herod, after Jesus was born in Bethlehem of Judea, wise men from the East came to Jerusalem, asking, “Where is the child who has been born king of the Jews? For we observed his star at its rising, and have come to pay him homage.” When King Herod heard this, he was frightened, and all Jerusalem with him; and calling together all the chief priests and scribes of the people, he inquired of them where the Messiah was to be born. They told him, “In Bethlehem of Judea; for so it has been written by the prophet:

‘And you, Bethlehem, in the land of Judah,
are by no means least among the rulers of Judah;
for from you shall come a ruler
who is to shepherd my people Israel.’”

Then Herod secretly called for the wise men and learned from them the exact time when the star had appeared. Then he sent them to Bethlehem, saying, “Go and search diligently for the child; and when you have found him, bring me word so that I may also go and pay him homage.” When they had heard the king, they set out; and there, ahead of them, went the star that they had seen at its rising, until it stopped over the place where the child was. When they saw that the star had stopped, they were overwhelmed with joy. On entering the house, they saw the child with Mary his mother; and they knelt down and paid him homage. Then, opening their treasure chests, they offered him gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh. And having been warned in a dream not to return to Herod, they left for their own country by another road.

After the wise men had left, an angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother, and flee to Egypt, and remain there until I tell you; for Herod is about to search for the child, to destroy him.” Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother by night, and went to Egypt, and remained there until the death of Herod. This was to fulfill what had been spoken by the Lord through the prophet, “Out of Egypt I have called my son.”

When Herod saw that he had been tricked by the wise men, he was infuriated, and he sent and killed all the children in and around Bethlehem who were two years old or under, according to the time that he had learned from the wise men. Then was fulfilled what had been spoken through the prophet Jeremiah:

“A voice was heard in Ramah,
wailing and loud lamentation,
Rachel weeping for her children;
she refused to be consoled, because they are no more.”

When Herod died, an angel of the Lord suddenly appeared in a dream to Joseph in Egypt and said, “Get up, take the child and his mother, and go to the land of Israel, for those who were seeking the child’s life are dead.” Then Joseph got up, took the child and his mother, and went to the land of Israel. But when he heard that Archelaus was ruling over Judea in place of his father Herod, he was afraid to go there. And after being warned in a dream, he went away to the district of Galilee. There he made his home in a town called Nazareth, so that what had been spoken through the prophets might be fulfilled, “He will be called a Nazorean.”

REFLECTION

Payton Smith

THE APOSTLES’ CREED (said in unison)

BCP p. 53

I believe in God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth;
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost,

born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, dead, and buried.
He descended into hell.
The third day he rose again from the dead.
He ascended into heaven,
and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty.
From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Ghost,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.

THE PRAYERS

BCP p. 53

Officiant: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Officiant: Let us pray.

Officiant and People.

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.

SUFFRAGES, Form B

BCP p. 55

V. O Lord, save thy people, and bless thine heritage;
R. Govern them and lift them up for ever.
V. Day by day we magnify thee;
R. And we worship thy Name ever, world without end.
V. Vouchsafe, O Lord, to keep us this day without sin;
R. O Lord, have mercy upon us, have mercy upon us.
V. O Lord, let thy mercy be upon us;
R. As our trust is in thee.
V. O Lord, in thee have I trusted;
R. Let me never be confounded.

Read by Mary Jane Wilkie

O God, who didst wonderfully create, and yet more wonderfully restore, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, thy Son Jesus Christ; who liveth and reigneth with thee, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. *Amen.*

COLLECT FOR GUIDANCE

BCP p. 56

O heavenly Father, in whom we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray thee so to guide and govern us by thy Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget thee, but may remember that we are ever walking in thy sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

COLLECT FOR MISSION

BCP p. 57

O God, who hast made of one blood all the peoples of the earth, and didst send thy blessed Son to preach peace to those who are far off and to those who are near: Grant that people everywhere may seek after thee and find thee; bring the nations into thy fold; pour out thy Spirit upon all flesh; and hasten the coming of thy kingdom; through the same thy Son Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

OFFERTORY

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OFFERTORY HYMN 247

Coventry Carol

Burden

Lul - ly, lul - lay, thou lit - tle tin - y child, bye - bye, lul -

ly lul - lay.

1 O sis - ters, too, how may we do
 2 He - rod the King, in his rag - ing
 3 That woe is me, poor child for thee!

for to pre - serve this day this poor young - ling for
 charg - ed he hath this day his men of might, in
 And ev - ery morn and day, for thy part - ing nor

Repeat Burden after verse 3

whom we sing bye - bye, lul - ly lul - lay?
 his own sight, all young chil - dren to slay.
 say nor sing bye - bye, lul - ly lul - lay?

Words: Coventry carol, 15th cent. Music: *Coventry Carol*, melody from *Pageant of the Shearmen and Tailors*, 15th cent.;
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DOXOLOGY

Old 100th

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
 Praise Him all creatures here below
 Praise Him above ye heavenly host
 Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE, Form II

BCP p. 385

Read by Jim Nedelka

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for Michael, our Presiding Bishop; for Andrew, Allen and Mary, our own Bishops; for The Episcopal/Anglican Province of Alexandria; for the Members of the 117th U.S. Congress on this first day of their service; for St. Matthew's Church, Bethnal Green; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people.
 Pray for the Church.

Silence

I ask your prayers for peace; for goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people.
 Pray for justice and peace.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the poor, the sick, the hungry, the oppressed, for those in prison, and for Richard and Linda Howe, the Foley Family, the Abbott Family, Marshall Thorpe, Victor Isaac, Robert Emerson, Ronald Guichard, Trecia Usher Garcia, Jeanne Anne Knowlton, Emily, Hillary, Mark Zimoski, Ethel Hope, Aldington Hope, Timothy Savage, Sally, Dr. Joseph DeMichael, John Sweigart, Lisa and Monty, Carol Moffa, the McGuire Family, Yared.
 Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Silence

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of him.
Pray that they may find and be found by him.

Silence

I ask your prayers for our parishioners who minister to the sick and needy, for our Advisory Board as they lead us in discerning God's will for our parish, for God's guidance as we move forward with faith and trust on our journey.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the departed, remembering Douglas Manes, Matt McGuire.
Pray for those who have died.

Silence

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored.
Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

Silence

Officiant: Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your apostles, "Peace I give to you; my own peace I leave with you:" Regard not our sins, but the faith of your Church, and give to us the peace and unity of that heavenly City, where with the Father and the Holy Spirit you live and reign, now and for ever. *Amen.*

THE GENERAL THANKSGIVING (said in unison)

BCP p. 58

Almighty God, Father of all mercies,
we thine unworthy servants
do give thee most humble and hearty thanks
for all thy goodness and loving-kindness
to us and to all men.
We bless thee for our creation, preservation,
and all the blessings of this life;
but above all for thine inestimable love
in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ,
for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory.

And, we beseech thee,
give us that due sense of all thy mercies,
that our hearts may be unfeignedly thankful;
and that we show forth thy praise,
not only with our lips, but in our lives,
by giving up our selves to thy service,
and by walking before thee
in holiness and righteousness all our days;
through Jesus Christ our Lord,
to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost,
be all honor and glory, world without end. Amen.

1 Christ is the world's true Light, its Cap-tain of sal - va - tion,
 2 In Christ all rac - es meet, their an-cient feuds for - get - ting;
 3 One Lord, in one great Name u - nite us all who own thee;

the Day - star clear and bright of ev - ery race and na - tion;
 the whole round world com - plete, from sun-rise to its set - ting;
 cast out our pride and shame that hin-der to en - throne thee;

new life, new hope a - wakes, for all who own his sway:
 when Christ is throned as Lord all shall for - sake their fear,
 the world has wait - ed long, has tra - vailed long in pain;

free - dom her bond - age breaks, and night is turned to day.
 to plough-share beat the sword, to prun - ing - hook the spear.
 to heal its an - cient wrong, come, Prince of Peace, and reign.

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DISMISSAL

BCP p. 59

Officiant: Let us bless the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

Officiant: May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. *Amen.*

POSTLUDE Aria in D major from Partita No. 4

Johann Sebastian Bach

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Jestin Pieper, Pianist