

# CHURCH of the HOLY NATIVITY CLARENDON HILLS



Herrel, Edie Mae. He Puts Roses in My Sky. 1983. Print.

## HOLY EUCHARIST

## THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 14, 2025 at 9:30 a.m.

## **ENTRANCE RITE**

#### **PRELUDE**

At the ringing of the bell, **STAND** as able as the ministers enter during the hymn.

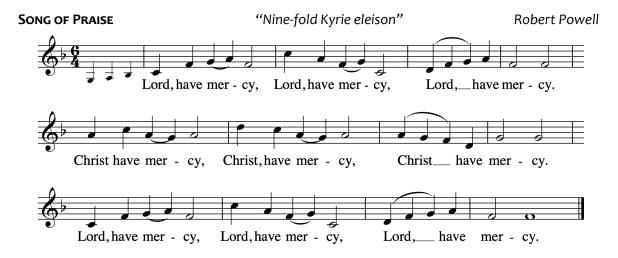


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**OPENING ACCLAMATION** EOW1 50

Celebrant Blessed be our God.

People For ever and ever. Amen.



#### **SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY**

BCP 357

Celebrant The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Celebrant 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.** 

Please be **SEATED**.

## LITURGY OF THE WORD

THE FIRST LESSON Isaiah 35:1-10

Lector A reading from the prophet Isaiah.

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad, the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly, and rejoice with joy and singing.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God.

Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God. He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you."

Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp, the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way; the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people; no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray. No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. And the ransomed of the Lord shall return, and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Lector The Word of the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.



Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their | help! whose hope is in the Lord their | God;
Who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is | in them; who keeps his promise for | ever;

Who gives justice to those who are op | pressed, and food to those who | hunger.

The Lord sets the prisoners free; the Lord opens the eyes of the | blind; the Lord lifts up those who are bowed | down;

The Lord loves the righteous;
the Lord cares for the | stranger;
he sustains the orphan and widow,
but frustrates the way of the | wicked.
The Lord shall reign for | ever,
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Halle | lujah!

THE SECOND LESSON James 5:7-10

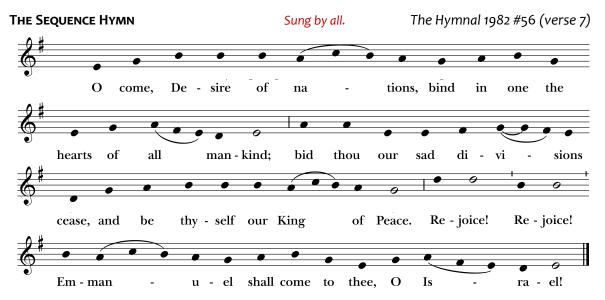
Lector A reading from the letter of James.

Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Lector The Word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

#### All **STAND** as able.



Words: Latin, ca. 9th cent.; ver. *Hymnal 1940*, alt. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*, plainsong, Mode 1, Processionale, 15th cent.; adapt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890); acc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937).

THE HOLY GOSPEL Matthew 11:2-11

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

People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?"

Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me."

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: "What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written,

'See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.'

"Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

Deacon The Gospel of the Lord.
People Praise to you, Lord Christ.

THE SERMON

The Very Rev. Bradley A. Linboom Rector

All **STAND** as able.

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.

#### THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Deacon As we joyfully await the full manifestation of God's reign in Christ, let us pray for

the needs of the church and the world.

Intercessor O Wisdom, you come forth from the mouth of the Most High and reach from

beginning to end, mightily and sweetly ordering all things. Behold and bless your church, remembering especially Sean our presiding bishop, Paula our diocesan bishop, Brad our priest, Sandy and Rose our deacons. Kim and Susan our wardens, our vestry, and our staff. Be present in ordering the life of this and

every congregation.

People Come and teach us the way of prudence.

Intercessor O Adonai, God of the Covenant, ruler of the house of Israel, you appeared to Mo-

ses in the fire of the burning bush and on Mount Sinai gave your law.

Forgive us when we stray from your guidance and will.

People Come and redeem us for our life together.

Intercessor

O Root of Jesse, you stand as an ensign to humankind; before you rulers will shut their mouths, and nations bow in worship: We pray for your peace and justice in every nation and throughout the world; be present to all whose lives are ravaged by war and strife. Guide the leaders of this and every land into the paths of peace and goodwill.

People

Come save us and do not delay.

Intercessor

O Key of David, and scepter of the house of Israel, you open and no one can shut, you shut and no one can open: Guide us in opening the doors of opportunity for the unemployed, for the unhoused, for prisoners, and for all who are oppressed; and lead us in closing the doors that lead to poverty, bigotry, and injustice.

People

Come and bring the captives out of the prison house.

Intercessor

O King of the Nations, you are the cornerstone that makes us one; the one who holds us and shapes us. We lift up those who are especially in need of your healing grace: Elizabeth & Matthew; R and J; Kris; Maria Luz & Eusebio (Acabel); Shain (Barry); Betsy (Bennett); Judy (Brackett); Diane (Brodzinski); Gloria (Brown); Pam (Cianci); Zeke (Colman); Gloria (Domrose); Jim (Fitzpatrick); Rhyn (Gabriel); Evan (Georgi); Liz (Giacomelli); Payton (Hagstrom); Tim (Hoffert); Terry (Johnson); Sharon (Kingery); Gordon (Leipold); Elsie (Mann); Luis (Mendoza); David (Munneke); Gilbert (Orejudos); Temple (Parker); Yetunde Grace (Peters); Fola & Yinka (Phillips); Marsha (Poppie); Eduardo, Milagros, Clemente, & "Tia" Maria (Rivera); Frank (Romans); Charlotte (Sladek); Rachel (Snavely); Marianne & Peter (Thompson); Charlotte (Towery); Nancy (Vincent); Margie & Jeff (Wilson); John & Joyce (Yurko) and those we now name aloud or in the silence of our hearts...

The people are invited to voice additional petitions.

Tend the sick, give rest to the weary, bless the dying, soothe the suffering, pity the afflicted, shield the joyous and help us minister to them in your love.

People

Come and save us whom you have fashioned out of clay.

Intercessor O Dayspring, radiance of the Light Eternal and Sun of Righteousness: Shine your

light on those who have died; remember especially those we now name...

The people are invited to voice additional petitions.

Bring comfort to all those who mourn.

People Come and enlighten all who sit in darkness and the shadow of death.

The celebrant adds a concluding collect. The people responding **Amen.** 

#### **CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

Deacon Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

#### Silence may be kept.

People 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.

#### THE PEACE

Celebrant The Peace of the Lord, be always with you.

People And also with you.

The people greet one another in the name of the Lord and then are **SEATED**.

## THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

#### **OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

The Celebrant begins the Offertory with a sentence of scripture. The people are then **SEATED**.

THE OFFERTORY

"E'en so Lord Jesus, quickly come"

Paul Manz

During the Offertory, the gifts of bread and wine are brought forward and the Deacon prepares the table.

#### **OFFERTORY RESPONSE**

Lift Up Your Hearts #934

The people **STAND** for the Hymn as the Offering is presented.



Lift Up Your Hearts 934

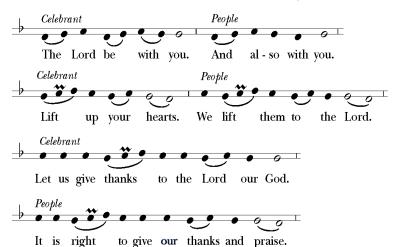
Words: Hentry F. Lyte, 1834, alt., P.D.

Music (DIX 7.7.7.7.7): Conrad Kocher, 1838; adapt. William H. Monk, 1861, P.D.

#### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

## **Eucharistic Prayer B**

BCP 367

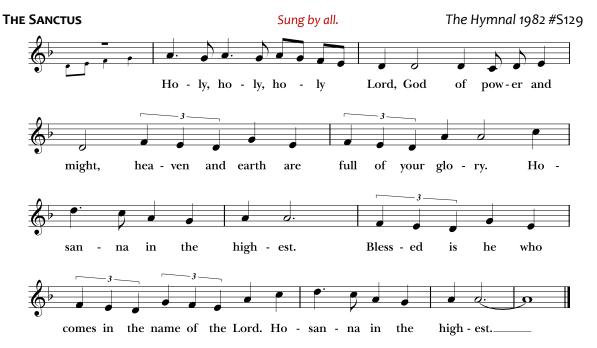


#### The celebrant continues

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Creator of heaven and earth.

## [Here is proper Preface is sung or said]

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:



Music: Robert Powell (b. 1932). Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

#### The Celebrant continues

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,

All We remember his death,

We proclaim his resurrection,

We await his coming in glory.

#### The Celebrant continues

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.

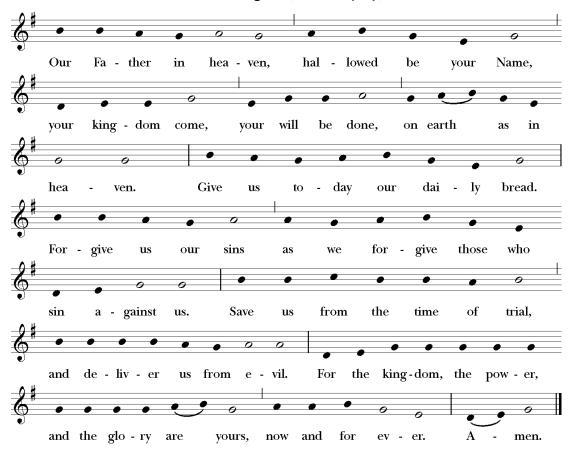
By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.



## THE LORD'S PRAYER

## Sung by all.

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



#### THE FRACTION

We observe a moment of holy silence as the Celebrant breaks the bread.



#### THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

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

Children can now be picked up from the nursery for Communion.

## **About Receiving Communion**

All who seek God and are drawn by Christ are welcome to receive Holy Communion.

Follow the instructions of the clergy and/or ushers.

If for any reason, you do not wish to receive Communion, you are still invited to come forward.

Please cross your arms over your chest for a prayer of blessing to be said over you.

Please inform the minister if you need a gluten-free wafer.



Words: Gracia Grindal (b. 1943). Music: Sterling, Joy F Patterson (b. 1931).

Celebrant Let us pray.

All Almighty and everliving God,

we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food

of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ;

and for assuring us in these holy mysteries

that we are living members of the Body of your Son,

and heirs of your eternal kingdom.

And now, Father, send us out

to do the work you have given us to do,

to love and serve you

as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit,

be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS/BIRTHDAYS/ANNIVERSARIES**

#### THE ADVENT BLESSING

The Priest may bless the people, the people responding **Amen.** 

## **HYMN IN PROCESSION [OVERLEAF]**

#### DISMISSAL

The Deacon dismisses the people, the people responding

People Thanks be to God.

#### **POSTLUDE**



Words: Charles Coffin (1676-1749); tr. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944), after John Chandler (1806-1876); alt. Music: *Winchester New*, melody from *Musicalishes Hand-Buch*, 1690; harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889), alt.

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Susan Dillon ('27) smdillon@sbcglobal.net

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Jeanne Widing ('26) - Outreach Jesse Wood ('26) - Adult Formation Ross Drobny ('27) - Buildings & Grounds Amy Gabriel ('27) - Christian Education Joan Barry ('28) - Hospitality Tom Koziel ('28) - Finance

#### **Treasurer**

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#### Clerk

Alisha McCloud

Alisha mccloud@hotmail.com

#### CHURCH STAFF

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The Rev. Dr. Sandra Siegel Miller sandy@holynativitych.org

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#### **Director of Youth and Family Formation**

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#### To Give

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