WELCOME TO
ST. MARK'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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CAPITOL HILL

ST. MARK'S MISSION STATEMENT

St. Mark's is an open community, welcoming people wherever they are on their faith journey. We celebrate the gifts of God that empower us to engage boldly in life's struggles and care for others with love, justice, and compassion.

CHRISTMAS II

January 4, 2026

9:00 AM HOLY EUCHARIST & LAYING ON OF HANDS

10:00 AM SERMON SEMINAR

11:15 AM HOLY EUCHARIST & LAYING ON OF HANDS

Rector
The Reverend Michele H. Morgan

Associate Rector
The Reverend Caitlin Frazier

Pastoral Associate
The Reverend Patricia Catalano

Seminarian
Rebekah Taylor

Interim Director of Music
Michael McCarthy

Children, Youth, & Family Ministry Director
Lisa Ramish

Welcome to St. Mark's Episcopal Church ✠ Capitol Hill

To view the **parish calendar online**, please visit our homepage www.stmarks.net and click "Calendar" at the top of the page.

Hearing – Infrared headsets providing amplified sound are in the tract racks by the doors, or ask an usher.

Childcare – The Nursery is closed today to allow our teachers time with their loved ones.

Restrooms are available in the foyer, with more downstairs.

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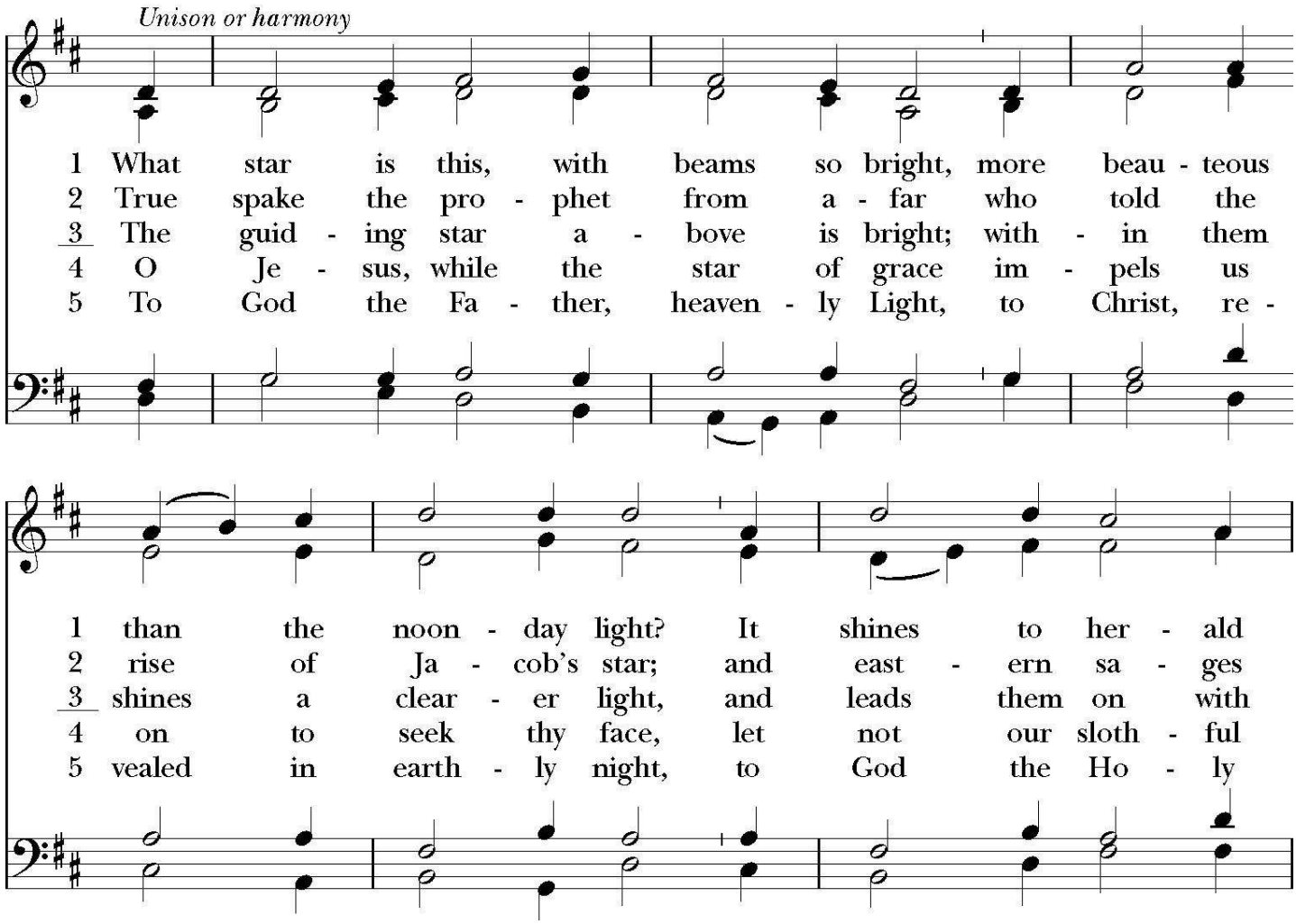
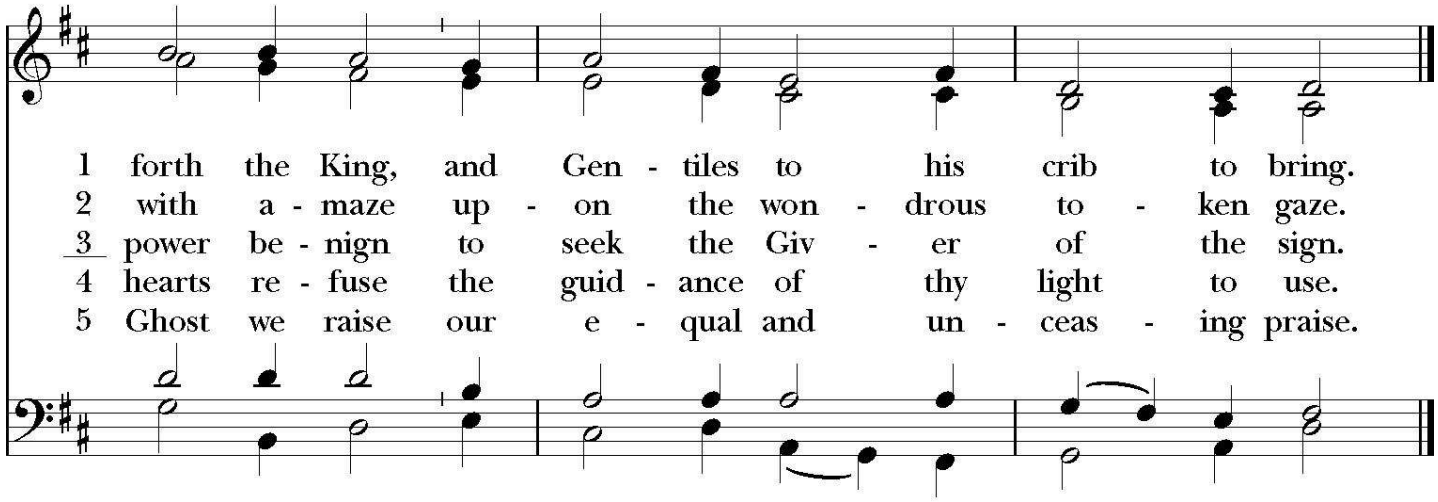
THE LITURGY OF THE WORD

PRELUDE

OPENING HYMN 124 What star is this, with beams so bright *Puer nobis*





OPENING SENTENCES

I bring you good news of great joy!
A Savior has been born to you! Alleluia!

Unto us, a child is born!
The child is a gift! Alleluia!

He is Christ the Lord! Alleluia!
We worship and adore him! Alleluia!

THE COLLECT
Let us pray

O God, who wonderfully created, and yet more wonderfully restored, the dignity of human nature: Grant that we may share the divine life of him who humbled himself to share our humanity, your Son Jesus Christ; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. Amen.

The people sit.

THE FIRST READING Ephesians 1:3-6,15-19a

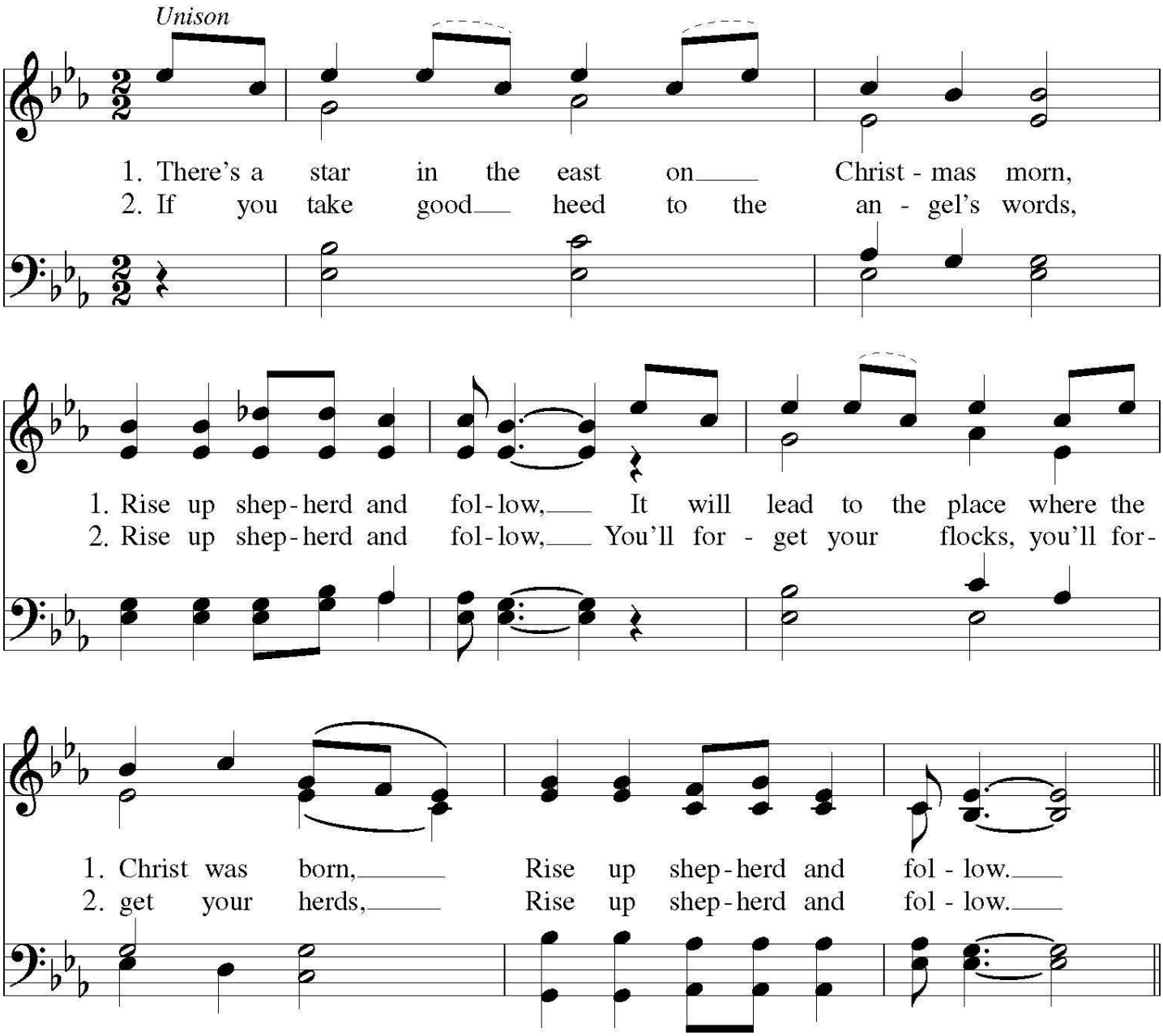
Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, who has blessed us in Christ with every spiritual blessing in the heavenly places, just as he chose us in Christ before the foundation of the world to be holy and blameless before him in love. He destined us for adoption as his children through 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

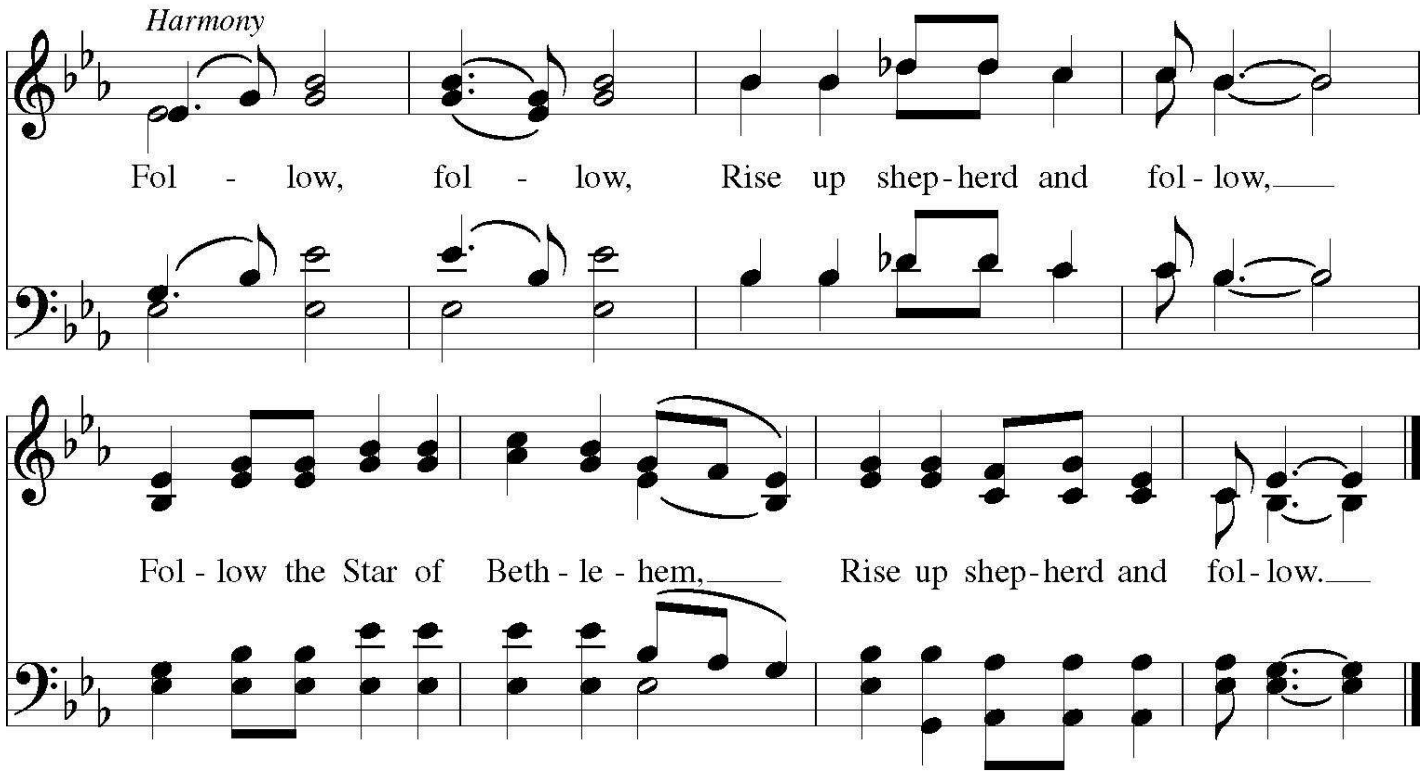
the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to us.
Thanks be to God.

SEQUENCE HYMN

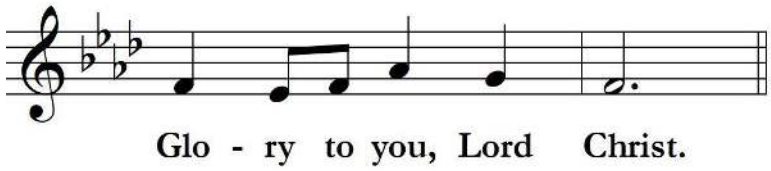
LEVAS 24 Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow — African American Spiritual





THE GOSPEL Luke 2:41-52

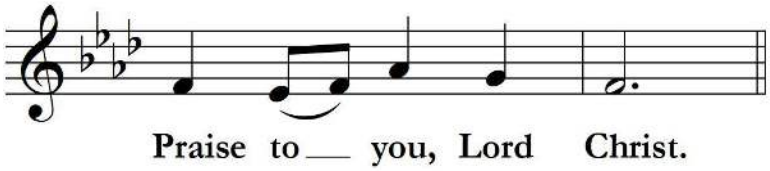
The Gospel of Jesus according to Luke.



The parents of Jesus went to Jerusalem every year for the festival of the Passover. And when he was twelve years old, they went up as usual for the festival. When the festival was ended and they started to return, the boy Jesus stayed behind in Jerusalem, but his parents did not know it. Assuming that he was in the group of travelers, they went a day's journey. Then they started to look for him among their relatives and friends.
When they did not find him, they returned to Jerusalem to search for him. After three days they found him in the temple, sitting among the teachers, listening to them and asking them questions. And all who heard him were amazed at his understanding and his answers. When his parents saw him they were astonished; and his mother said to him, "Child, why have you treated us like this? Look, your father and I have been searching for you in great anxiety." He said to them, "Why were you searching for me? Did you not know that I must be in my Father's house?" But they did not understand what he said to them. Then he went down with them and came to Nazareth, and was obedient to them. His mother treasured all these things in her heart.

And Jesus increased in wisdom and in years, and in divine and human favor.

The Gospel of Jesus.



(11:15) **SERMON** The Reverend Caitlin Frazier

The sermon for the 9 AM service will be delivered after the service during Sermon Seminar.

THE AFFIRMATION

We believe that God has created us.
We believe that God is born among us.
We believe that God will always sustain us.
We believe that God calls us to bring peace, justice, and compassion into this world.
We believe that in the end of all things, God's love shall prevail. Amen.

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Let us pray:
Christ, born in a stable, give courage to all who are homeless: Jesus, Savior,
Hear our prayer.

Christ, for whom the angels sang, give the song of the kingdom to all who weep:
Jesus, Savior,
Hear our prayer.

Christ, worshipped by the shepherds, give peace on earth to all who are oppressed:
Jesus, Savior,
Hear our prayer.

Jesus, becoming a healer, grant healing to a world in warfare.
Jesus, Savior,
Hear our prayer.

Christ, before whom the wise men knelt, give humility and wisdom to all who govern:
Jesus, Savior,
Hear our prayer.

Christ, whose radiance filled a lowly manger, give the glory of your resurrection to all who rest in you: Jesus, Savior,
Hear our prayer.

The people are invited to offer prayers, petitions, and thanksgivings, either silently or aloud, at this time.

Let us pray:

Lord Jesus Christ, Son of the Father, full of the Spirit, hear our prayer, receive our praises, and fill our lives. Amen.

THE PEACE

May the peace of God, born among us, be with you!
And also with you.

VESTRY GREETING

(11:15) ANNOUNCEMENTS

WELCOME

ELECTRONIC OFFERING

Please consider supporting the work of the church. You may make an online gift, or learn about the other ways to give, by visiting the St. Mark's website, stmarks.net, and choosing "Donate or Pledge" at the top.

Gifts to St. Marks can also be made by texting "stmarks20003" to 73256, or by visiting the QR code. Thank you for your generous support of our collective work.

Food offerings may be brought forward to the baskets under the altar at this time.

OFFERTORY SENTENCE

Let us put into action the generosity that comes from your faith.

THE LITURGY OF THE TABLE

OFFERTORY ANTHEM The Virgin's Slumber Song — Words by Martin Boelitz, Music by Max Reger

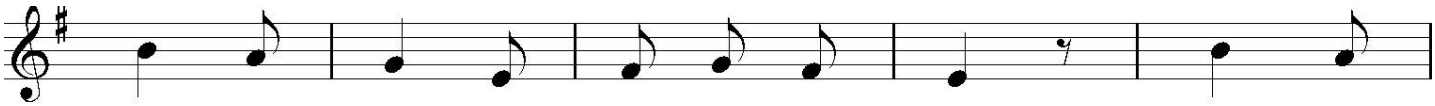
Marjorie Coombs Wellman, soloist

Maria sitzt im Rosenhag	Amid the roses Mary sits
Und wiegt ihr Jesuskind,	And rocks her Jesus-child,
Durch die Blätter leise	While amid the treetops
Weht der warme Sommerwind.	Sighs the breeze so warm and mild.
Zu ihren Füßen singt	And soft and sweetly sings
Ein buntes Vögelein:	A bird upon a bough:
Schlaf, Kindlein, süße,	Ah, baby, dear one,
Schlaf nun ein!	Slumber now!
Hold ist dein Lächeln,	Happy is Thy laughter,
Holder deines Schlummers Lust,	Holy is Thy silent rest,
Leg dein müdes Köpfchen	Lay Thy head in slumber
Fest an deiner Mutter Brust!	Fondly on Thy Mother's breast.
Schlaf, Kindlein, süße,	Ah, baby, dear one,
Schlaf nun ein!	Slumber now!

Please stand as able.

PRESENTATION HYMN

128 We three kings of orient are, vv. 1-3 — *Three Kings of Orient*



1 We three kings of O - ri - ent are, bear - ing
2 Born a King on Beth - le - hem's plain, gold I
3 Frank - in - cense to of - fer have I: in - cense
4 Myrrh is mine; its bit - ter per - fume breathes a
5 Glo - rious now be - hold him a - rise, King and

1 gifts we tra - verse a - far, field and foun - tain,
2 bring to crown him a - gain, King for ev - er,
3 owns a De - i - ty nigh; prayer and prais - ing,
4 life of gath - er - ing gloom; sor - rowing, sigh - ing,
5 God and Sac - ri - fice; heaven sings al - le -

1 moor and moun - tain, fol - low - ing yon - der star.
2 ceas - ing nev - er o - ver us all to reign.
3 glad - ly rais - ing, wor - ship him, God Most High.
4 bleed - ing, dy - ing, sealed in the stone - cold tomb.
5 lu - ia: al - le - lu - ia the earth re - plies.

Refrain

O star of won - der, star of night,

star with roy - al beau - ty bright; west - ward lead - ing,

still pro - ceed - ing, guide us to thy per - fect light!

EUCHARISTIC PRAYER

God is always with us.
God has been born among us!

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them up to the Incarnate One

Let us give thanks to God.
It is right and joyful to give our thankful praise.

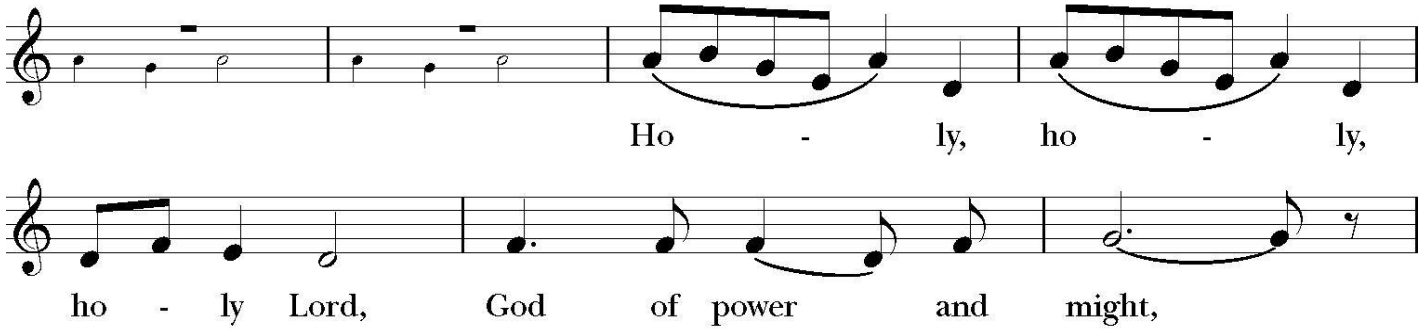
God of all power, Ruler of the Universe, you are worthy of glory and praise. Glory to you for ever and ever. At your command all things came to be: the vast expanse of interstellar space, galaxies, suns, the planets in their courses, and this fragile earth, our island home.
By your will they were created and have their being.

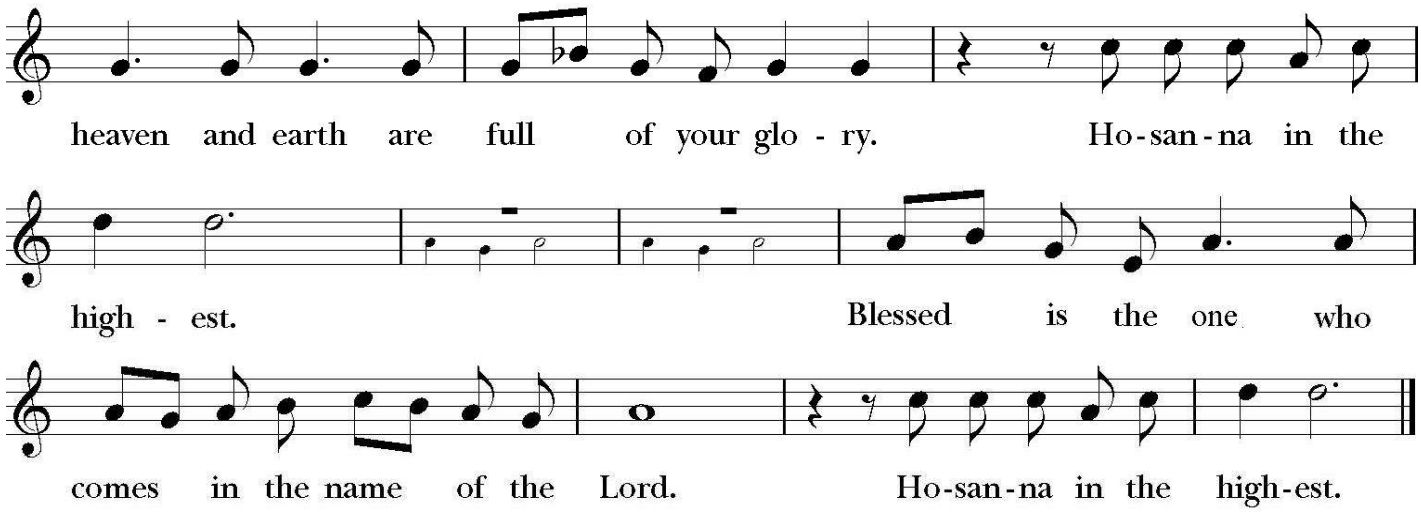
From the primal elements you brought forth the human race, and blessed us with memory, reason, and skill. You made us the rulers of creation. But we turned against you, and betrayed your trust; and we turned against one another.
Have mercy, God, for we are sinners in your sight.

Again and again, you called us to return. Through prophets and sages you revealed your righteous Law. And in the fullness of time you sent your only Son, born of a woman, to fulfill your Law, to open for us the way of freedom and peace.
By his love, he reconciled us. By his wounds, we are healed.

And therefore we praise you, joining with the heavenly chorus, with prophets, apostles, and martyrs, and with all those in every generation who have looked to you in hope, to proclaim with them your glory, in their unending hymn:

SANCTUS S 128 William Mathias





And so, God, we who have been redeemed by him, and made a new people by water and the Spirit, now bring before you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be the Body and Blood of Jesus Christ our Lord.

On the night he was betrayed he took bread, said the blessing, broke the bread, and gave it to his friends, 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, gave thanks, and said: "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."
Remembering now his work of redemption, and offering to you this sacrifice of thanksgiving,

We celebrate his death and resurrection, as we await the day of his coming.

God of our Ancestors: Sarah, Rachel, Rebecca, Leah Abraham, Isaac, and Jacob; God who was born of Mary and who is present in our Lord Jesus Christ: Open our eyes to see your hand at work in the world about us. Deliver us from the presumption of coming to this Table for solace only, and not for strength; for pardon only, and not for renewal.

Let the grace of this Holy Communion make us one body, one spirit in Christ, that we may worthily serve the world in his name.

Risen Lord, be known to us in the breaking of the Bread.

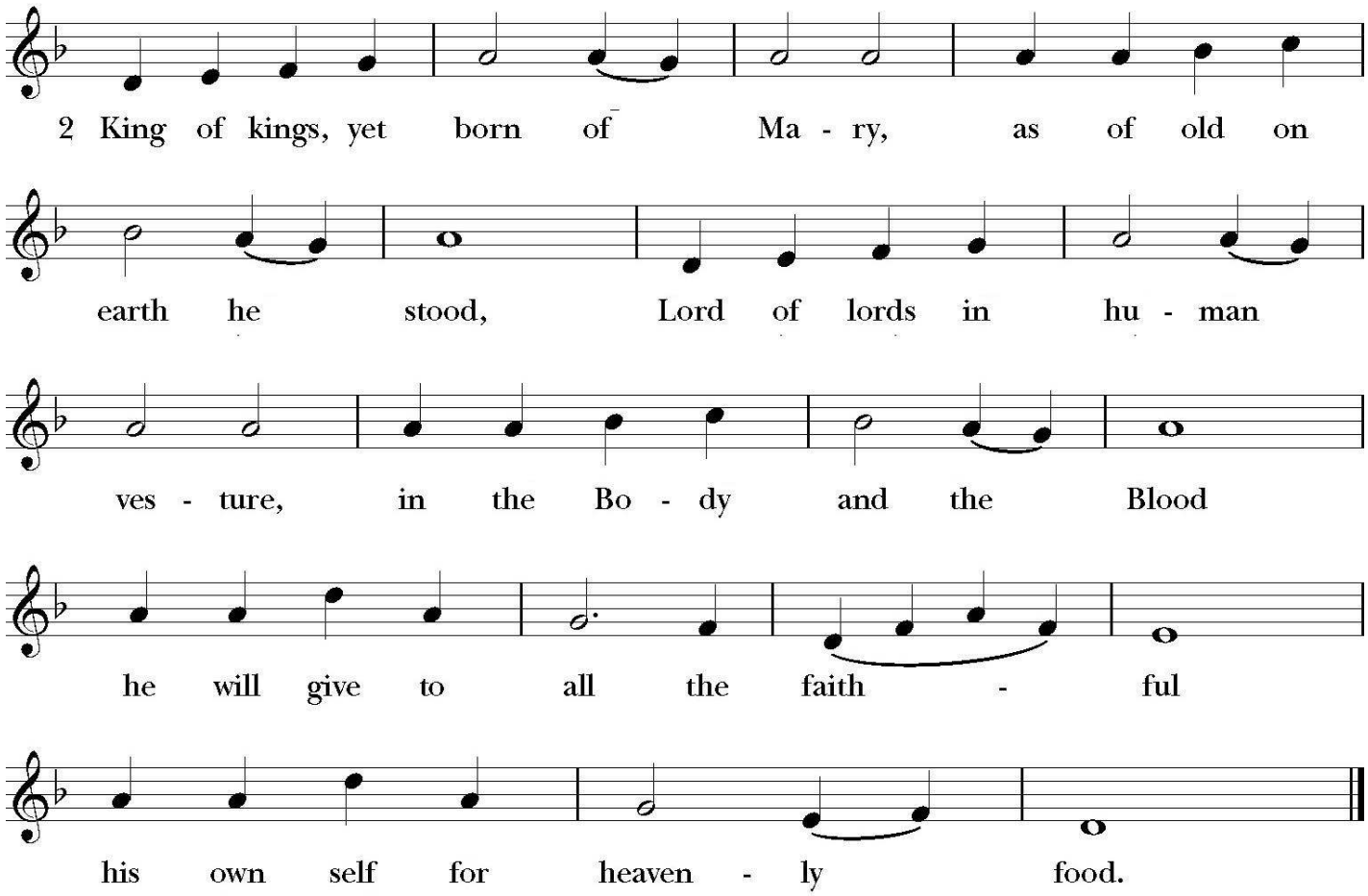
Accept these prayers and praises, Father, through Jesus Christ our great High Priest, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, your Church gives honor, glory, and worship, from generation to generation.
Amen!

THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, as Jesus taught us, let us pray:

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.

FRACTION ANTHEM Let all mortal flesh keep silence, v. 2 *Picardy*



THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

We recognize this as God's table and this bread and wine as God's food for us all.

Therefore, whoever we are, from wherever we have come, and whatever we believe or do not believe, All are welcome and invited to receive. Amen!

THE COMMUNION

St. Mark's receives communion "in the round" as a symbol of our strong belief in the power of community.

You will be offered bread by a celebrant and invited to drink from the common cup. Please put out your hands to help guide the cup to your lips, and drink.

If you do not wish to receive the wine, please cross your hands over your chest. Please refrain from intincting (dipping) the host (the bread) into the wine.

We offer Laying on of Hands in the chapel on the first and third Sunday of the month. On those Sundays, you may receive communion and go to the chapel to have prayers.

MUSIC DURING COMMUNION

It came upon the midnight clear — Words by E.H. Sears
Traditional English melody, arr. Richard Walters

Marjorie Coombs Wellman, soloist

It came upon the midnight clear,
that glorious song of old,
from angels bending near the earth
to touch their harps of gold:
"Peace on the earth, good will to men,
from heaven's all-gracious King."
The world in solemn stillness lay,
to hear the angels sing.

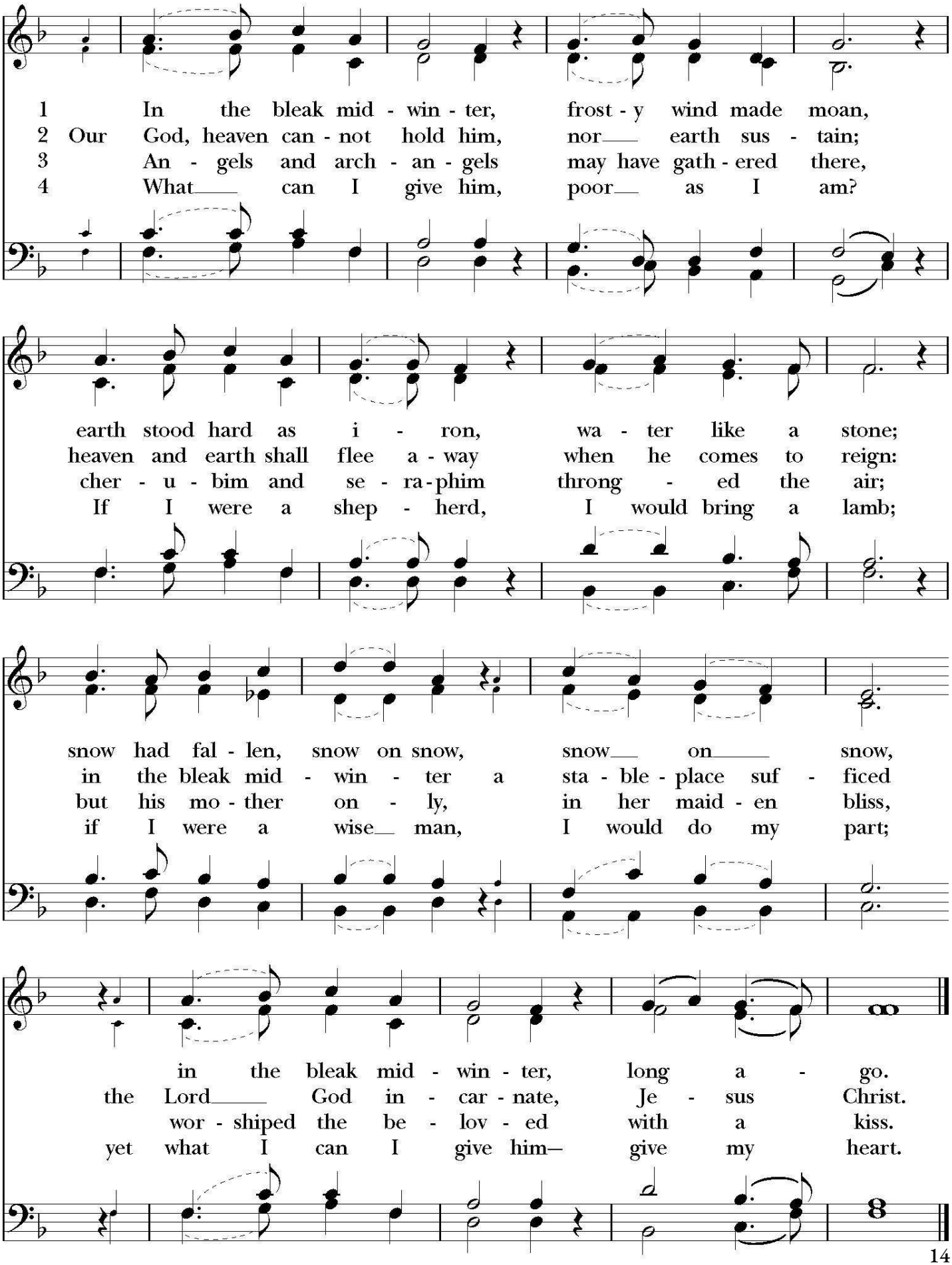
Still through the cloven skies they come
with peaceful wings unfurled,
and still their heavenly music floats
o'er all the weary world;

Above its sad and lowly plains,
they bend on hovering wing,
and ever o'er its Babel sounds
the blessed angels sing.

Yet with the woes of sin and strife
The world has suffered long;
Beneath the angel strain have rolled
Two thousand years of wrong;

And man, at war with man, hears not
The love song which they bring!
Oh hush the noise, ye men of strife,
And hear the angels sing.

Hymn 112 In the bleak midwinter *Cranham*

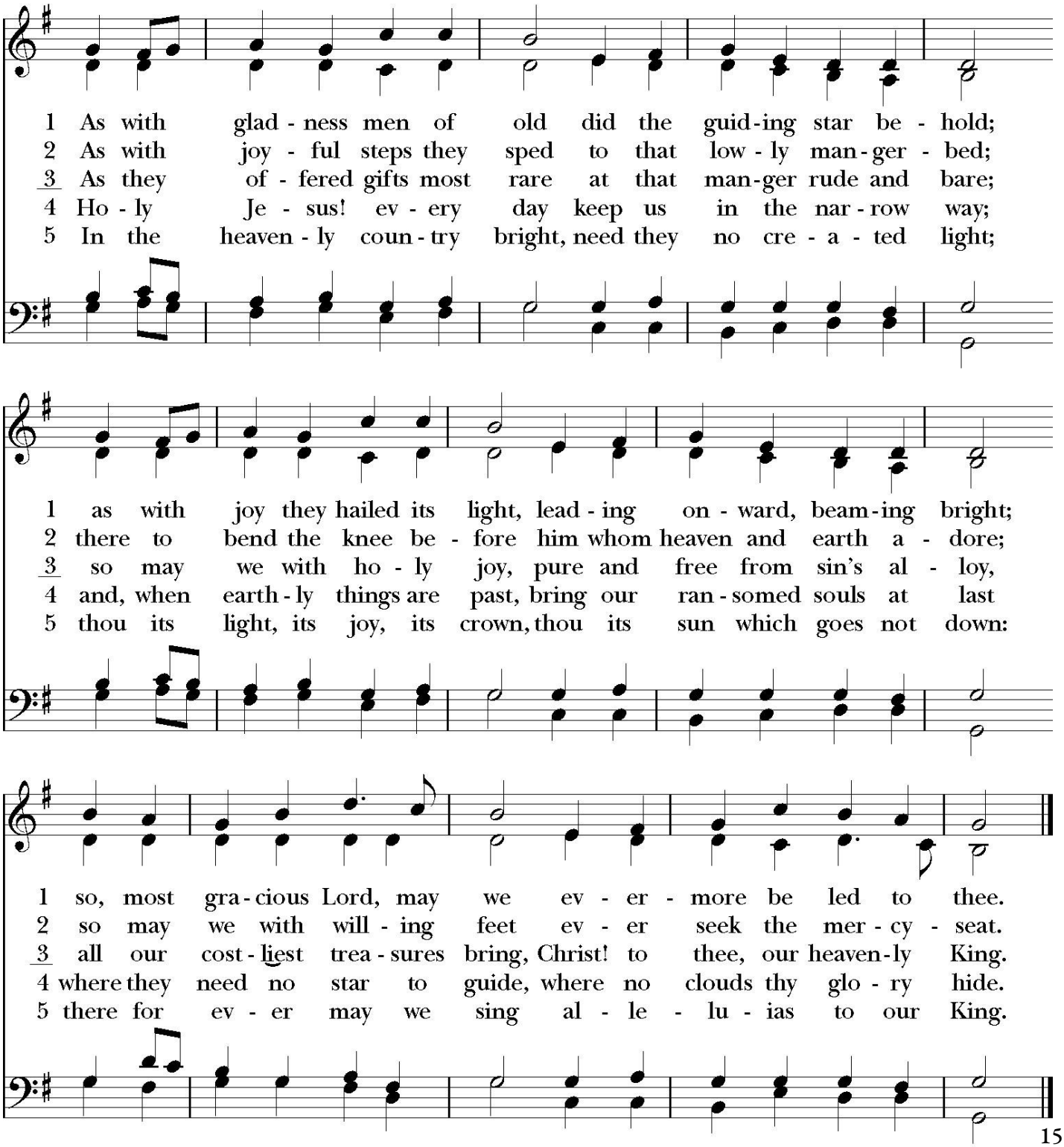


POST-COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray,

Loving God, we thank you for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people forgiven, healed, and renewed; we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN 119 As with gladness those of old, vv. 1-3, 5 *Dix*



THE BLESSING

When the song of the angels is stilled, when the star in the sky is gone,
when the kings and princes are home, when the shepherds are back with their flocks,
the work of Christmas begins: to find the lost,
to heal the broken, to feed the hungry,
to release the prisoner, to rebuild the nations,
to bring Peace/שלום/سلام among the people, to make music in the heart.
And the Blessing of God: Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, be with us now and forever.
Amen.

DISMISSAL

Alleluia! Alleluia! Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit!
Christ is born in us! Alleluia! Alleluia!

POSTLUDE

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Sermon Seminar *at 10:00 am*

Announcements *Please limit announcements to one minute or less.*

The Sermon The Reverend Caitlin Frazier

Sermon Seminar Guidelines:

1. Is what I have to say relevant to the sermon?
2. Is it meaningful? Will others care?
3. Can I be brief?
4. Will I later regret having said it?
5. Has anyone else said it?

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The Advent/Christmas Wreath, given to St. Mark's by Scilla Adams in loving memory of her father, Colonel Neil Ramsay, was hand-forged by Richard A. Martin, a metal sculptor in Alexandria, Virginia. This work is made of steel with hammered drip pans, painted black and measuring three feet in diameter, with a cross hanging beneath the central candle.

Liturgical Leaders and Worship Participants

We'd love to talk to you if you're interested in serving in the liturgy in any of the following roles! For more information, contact our Assistant Rector Caitlin Frazier, Caitlin@stmarks.net

Presider & Preacher	The Reverend Caitlin Frazier
Interim Director of Music	Mike McCarthy
Soloist	Marjorie Coombs Wellman
Verger	TBD, *9:00*; TBD, *11:15*
Greeters	Karen Woodall & Annie Rorem Family, *9:00*; TBD, *11:15*
Acolytes	Sybil Ory, *9:00*; Jason Campbell, *11:15*
Readers	Christina Herman & Nancy Lucas, *9:00*; TBD, *11:15*
Bread & Wine	Maureen Shea & Kenn Allen, *9:00*, TBD, *11:15*
Altar Guild	Susan Ryerson, *9:00*; Leda Bloomfield & Doris Burton, *11:15*
Eucharistic Ministers	Josie Jordan, *9:00*; Jan Lipscomb, *11:15*
Video Director	David Deutsch
Technical Director	Matt Dodge & Eva-Dee Beech
Laying on of Hands	TBD, *9:00*; TBD, *11:15*

Acknowledgements & Permissions: The Collect, *Prayers for an Inclusive Church* by Steven Shakespeare (adapted), Blessing, *The Book of Common Prayer* of the Anglican Church of New Zealand, adapted. The Creed: Scott Lipscomb. Eucharistic Prayer & Dismissal, *The Book of Common Prayer*. Post-communion prayer, *Enriching Our Worship,* volume 1, adapted. Prayers of the People: *Common Worship* of the Church of England. | *What star is this, with beams so bright.* 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. *Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow.* Words: Traditional. Music: Negro Spiritual. *Gospel Responses.* Music: Jeff Kempskie. *The Virgin's Slumber Song.* Words by Martin Boelitz, Music by Max Reger. PD. *We three kings of Orient are.* Words: John Henry Hopkins, Jr. (1820-1891), alt. Music: *Three Kings of Orient*, John Henry Hopkins, Jr. (1820-1891). *Sanctus*. Music: William Mathias (1934-1992), © 1976 Oxford University Press. *Let all mortal flesh keep silence*. Words: Liturgy of St. James; para. Gerard Moultrie (1829-1885). Music: *Picardy*, French carol, 17th cent.; melody from Chansons populaires des Provinces de France, 1860; harm. after The English Hymnal, 1906. *It came upon the midnight clear.* Words: E.H. Sears. Music: Traditional English melody, arr. Richard Walters, © 1992 Hal Leonard. *In the bleak midwinter.* Words: Christina Rossetti (1830-1894). Music: *Cranham*, Gustav Theodore Holst (1874-1934). *As with gladness men of old.* Words: William Chatterton Dix (1837-1898). Music: *Dix*, melody Conrad Kocher (1786-1872); arr. William Henry Monk (1823-1889); harm. *The English Hymnal*, 1906. All selections: All rights reserved. Reprinted and livestreamed under OneLicense.net A-718991.

Land Acknowledgement We acknowledge with respect the history, spirituality, and culture of the peoples on whose traditional territory we are located, specifically the Piscataway and Nacotchtank (Anacostan) peoples. We make this acknowledgment mindful of the traumatic events and the ongoing forces of systemic racism and oppression that forced native peoples from their lands. We continue our commitment to learning, growing, and finding a new way forward for meaningful, mutual healing.

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Cycle of Prayer

In the Diocese of Washington

Church of the Epiphany, DC • Epiphany DC Welcome Cafe Ministry
Epiphany Church, Forestville • Diocesan Ordination Service for Transitional Deacons (Jan 10)

Anglican Communion

The Church of the Province of Central Africa

Parish Prayer List

Louise Abbot • Ben Alquiros • Nora Alquiros • Pam Baugh • Jackie Blondin
Jackie Boddie • Joseph Boone • Suzanne Burnette • Charlotte Clymer
Tracy Councill • Martin and Mary De Nys • Charley Donnelly • Dottie & Rudy
Pete Eveleth • Eddie Garnett • Jack Guza • Barbara Harvey • Michael Henely
Darnell Hill • Judith Holt • Jack Howell • Gale Johnson • Julia Jones • Shadi Khoury
Hatcher Byrd Kincheloe • Pat Latin • Marwan Ibrahim Maadi • Lila Marks
Nat Marks • Taylor Emerson Marks Walton Moody • Fred Muller (and family)
Mariza Oliveira • Bob Pearson • James & Wanda Pittman • Susan Puhala (and family)
Malik Robinson Jr • T.H. Salmon Jon Sand • Ben Schaibly • Stephanie Seely
Elin Whitney Smith • Martha Kincheloe Spain • Deb Sullivan • Anthony Sullivan
Yasser & Jawaher Toshtash • David Thacker • Stephanie Toth
Mateo Martinez-Vega & Family • Stephen Wolf • Geoffrey Wood • Tom Zarek

Parishioners and Family Members Serving in the Military

Chase Allen Ammon • Clint Billings • Jason Earnest • Noah Landen
Ensign Andrew Loevinger • Lt. Tyler Gray-Hoehn • 1st Lt. Colin Gray-Hoehn

If you would like to request to add or remove a name,
please email the Bulletin Coordinator at bulletin@stmarks.net

St. Mark's Episcopal Church, Capitol Hill

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Washington, DC 20003

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www.stmarks.net

Office Directory

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The Reverend Patricia Catalano, Liturgy & Pastoral Associate	adjunct@stmarks.net
Rebekah Taylor, Seminarian	seminarian@stmarks.net
Michael McCarthy, Interim Director of Music	mike@stmarks.net
Lisa Ramish, Children's, Youth, & Family Ministry Director	youthdirector@stmarks.net
Samantha White, Parish Administrator for Building and Facilities	parishadmin@stmarks.net
Annick Milde, Parish Administrator for Finance	pfa@stmarks.net
Judith Rautenberg, Children's Choir Director	judith@stmarks.net
Katherine Philipson, Bulletin Coordinator	bulletin@stmarks.net

The Vestry

Senior Warden	Jim Brooks	srwarden@stmarks.net
Junior Warden	Martha Huizenga	juniorwarden@stmarks.net

Class of '26	Travis Beaty, Meg Platt & Todd Thorpe
Class of '27	Elizabeth Becker, Kristina Keenan & Doug Padgett
Class of '28	Mary Ellison, Ben Flowers, Katherine White

Officers

Doug Ammon,	*Treasurer*
Roy Phillips,	*Asst. Treasurer*
Frank Nickerson,	*Assistant Treasurer for Special Gifts & Bequests*
Nick Simons,	*Risk Manager*
Randy Marks,	*Clerk,*
Ryan Baugh,	*Assistant Clerk*
Rosemary Harold,	*Vestry Counsel*

Diocesan Delegates

J.R. Randall (2027), Mary Neznek (2027), Jan Lipscomb (2028), Randy Marks (2026)

Upcoming Vestry Meetings will be held on Jan 6th and 27th 7:00 PM via Zoom and in-person.
If you have questions, contact the Vestry Clerk at clerk@stmarks.net

Welcome Guests!

We'd like to get to know you better!

St. Mark's
EPISCOPAL CHURCH

We invite you to fill out this page, tear it off, and drop it into the offering plate or hand it to one of the greeters as you leave. Please take the rest of this service bulletin with you so that you can refer to the service schedule and office directory.

We hope you feel at home with us. If you have questions, please speak with the clergy or one of the greeters after the service. You can also call the office at any time, and we will be happy to help you in any way we can. After completing, please remove this page and place it in the offering plate or give it to a greeter.

I attended: _____ 9 a.m. Worship Service on January 4, 2026
_____ 11:15 a.m. Worship Service on January 4, 2026

Name _____

E-mail _____

Phone No. _____

Zip Code _____

I am interested in learning more about:

_____ BECOMING A MEMBER
_____ Volunteer during Worship (Usher, Lay Server, Altar Guild, Read, etc.)
_____ Baptism (child, adult)
_____ Music (choir, lessons)
_____ Children/youth classes & programs including Sunday School
_____ Adult classes
_____ Social Justice/Service
_____ Environmental issues
_____ Getting married at St. Mark's
_____ Senior programs/activities
_____ Yoga classes
_____ Dance classes
_____ St. Mark's Players (theatrical productions)

Would you like to be contacted by a clergyperson? _____ Yes _____ No

You can stay up to date on St. Mark's news by signing up online for the weekly eGospel newsletter at www.stmarks.net/contact-us/ or scan the QR code. If you'd like to join the St. Mark's egroup to interact with other parishioners, please contact Chris Berendes (christophberendes@gmail.com)

Thank you for visiting St. Mark's today. *Go in peace and return often!*