

# THE FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT THE HOLY EUCHARIST DECEMBER 3, 2023



## ABOUT ADVENT

Advent is the season in which the Christian Church waits and watches for the coming of Jesus Christ. Through scripture, song and silence we hear again the story of God's people who longed for a Savior. Living in the reality that Jesus Christ has indeed come, that he has died and that he has risen, we await for his coming again in glory. Blue vestments are worn at Christ Church throughout Advent, and the Advent Wreath, which is hung above the sanctuary, marks each passing week with an additional lighted candle. Throughout the Sundays of Advent *Gloria in excelsis*, "Glory to God in the highest," is suppressed as the opening song of praise, in its place is *Kyrie eleison*, "Lord, have mercy." The Episcopal Church offers four blessings for the season of Advent, one for each Sunday; these blessings are from the *Book of Occasional Services*. The new liturgical year begins on the First Sunday of Advent: we are now in Year A; the gospel reading appointed most Sundays in Year A is from the Gospel according to Matthew.

## WELCOME TO CHRIST CHURCH

The Parish of Christ the Redeemer (known as Christ Church) is the Episcopal Church in Pelham, New York. The Episcopal Church is part of the Anglican Communion which is made up of 85 million people in over 165 countries and is the third largest Christian denomination in the world. Christ Church was founded in 1843 and is the first house of worship in Pelham. This building was consecrated on September 15, 1843, the original church building was expanded in 1910, and the sanctuary was reconstructed in 1968 to allow for the current, more intimate worship space. Our congregation draws primarily from Pelham, New Rochelle, Mount Vernon, and the Bronx, and includes people from diverse denominational and cultural backgrounds. Whether you are new to Christ Church or a long-time member, you are invited to pray in our sacred spaces, join in our services of worship, and take an active role in the life and leadership of the parish. We give thanks and praise to God for your presence with us this morning! Children of all ages are always welcome in church. A great place for children to see, hear and participate is in the front pews of the church. Also, childcare is available in the Nursery every Sunday during the 10:00 AM Holy Eucharist. Sunday School is offered during the academic year from September until June. Sunday School begins at 10:00 AM each Sunday. After the children's service and Sunday School activities, the children join the rest of the congregation for the Holy Communion.

If you believe God may be calling you to a new relationship with him through Jesus Christ we want to be of help. Whether you want to receive the Sacrament of Holy Baptism, receive the laying on of hands by the bishop in the sacramental rite of Confirmation, or transfer your membership from another church or denomination, joining Christ Church is easy, just speak to Father Matthew Mead, Deacon Chisara Alimole, or our Administrator, Ms. Marie Main. After the service concludes please feel free to join us for Coffee Hour, a reception which generally includes coffee, other refreshments, and lasts about an hour and is a great opportunity to meet members of the congregation. All hymns and service music reprinted in this leaflet are either in the public domain or reprinted with permission under OneLicense.net license A-713125.

*The Trees on the Altar are given to the Glory of God*



## ORGAN PRELUDE

Choral Prelude “Rorate Cæli Desuper,” by *Jeanne Demessieux* (1921-1968)

## CHORAL INTROIT: ASPICIENS A LONGE

*All remain seated. The choir sings* Matin Responsory: Aspiciens a longe (I look from afar) *in a setting adapted from* Giovanni Pierluigi da Palestrina (c. 1525-1594).

I look from afar:  
and lo, I see the pow’r of God coming,  
and a cloud cov’ring the whole earth.  
Go ye out to meet him and say:  
Tell us, art thou he that should come  
to rule over thy people Israel?  
High and low, rich and poor, one with another.  
Go ye out to meet him and say:  
Tell us, art thou he that should come  
to rule o’er thy people Israel?  
Hear, O thou Shepherd of Israel,  
thou that leadest Joseph like a sheep.  
Tell us, art thou he that should come?  
Stir up thy strength, O Lord, and come.  
Come to reign o’er thy people Israel.  
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,  
and lo, I see the pow’r of God coming,  
and to the Holy Ghost.  
and a cloud covering the whole earth.  
Go ye out to meet him and say:  
Tell us, art thou he that should come  
to reign o’er they people Israel?

— *First Responsory at Matins on Advent Sunday in the Sarum Rite,  
drawn from the Book of Isaiah.*

# PROCESSIONAL HYMN (61)

*All stand and sing the hymn as the ministers enter.*

1 "Sleep - ers, wake!"          A    voice    a - stounds          us,          the  
2 Zi - on hears          the    watch - men    sing - ing;          her  
3 Lamb of God,          the    heavens    a - dore          you;          let

shout    of    ram - part - guards    sur - rounds          us:          "A -  
heart    with    joy - ful    hope    is    spring - ing,          she  
saints    and    an - gels    sing    be - fore          you,          as

wake,    Je - ru - sa - lem,    a - rise!"          Mid - night's peace    their  
wakes    and    hur - ries    through    the    night.          Forth he comes,    her  
harps    and    cym - bals    swell    the    sound.          Twelve great pearls,    the

cry    has    bro - ken,    their    ur - gent    sum - mons    clear - ly    spo -  
Bride-groom    glo - rious    in    strength    of    grace,    in    truth    vic - to -  
ci - ty's    por - tals:    through    them    we    stream    to    join    the    im - mor -

ken: "The time has come, O maid - ens wise!  
 rious: her star is risen, her light grows bright.  
 tals as we with joy your throne sur - round.

Rise up, and give us light; the Bride - groom is in  
 Now come, most wor - thy Lord, God's Son, In - car - nate  
 No eye has known the sight, no ear heard such de -

sight. Al - le - lu - ia! Your lamps pre - pare and  
 Word, Al - le - lu - ia! We fol - low all and  
 light: Al - le - lu - ia! There - fore we sing to

has - ten there, that you the wed - ding feast may share."  
 heed your call to come in - to the ban - quet hall.  
 greet our King; for ev - er let our prais - es ring.

**Words:** Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608); tr. Carl P. Daw, Jr. (b. 1944)

**Music:** *Wachet auf*, melody Hans Sachs (1494-1576); adapt. Philipp Nicolai (1556-1608); arr. and harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

# OPENING ACCLAMATION & COLLECT FOR PURITY

*All remain standing.*

*Celebrant* ✠ Blessed be God: Father, Son and Holy Spirit.

*People* And blessed be God's kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

*Celebrant* 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.

*All* Amen.

## KYRIE ELEISON

*All remain standing and sing Hymnal S-91, Lord, have mercy (English for the Greek "Kyrie eleison").*

Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up -  
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -  
on us. Christ, have mer - cy up - on us. Christ, have mer - cy up -  
on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.  
Lord, have mer - cy up - on us. Lord, have mer - cy up - on us.

Music: From *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*, Healey Willan (1880-1968)

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## COLLECT OF THE DAY

*All remain standing.*

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

**People** **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever.

**All** **Amen.**

## THE FIRST LESSON: ISAIAH 64:1-9

*All are seated as the lesson is read.*

*Reader* A reading from the Book of Isaiah.

O that you would tear open the heavens and come down, so that the mountains would quake at your presence-- as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil-- to make your name known to your adversaries, so that the nations might tremble at your presence! When you did awesome deeds that we did not expect, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. From ages past no one has heard, no ear has perceived, no eye has seen any God besides you, who works for those who wait for him. You meet those who gladly do right, those who remember you in your ways. But you were angry, and we sinned; because you hid yourself we transgressed. We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a filthy cloth. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. There is no one who calls on your name, or attempts to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have delivered us into the hand of our iniquity. Yet, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. Do not be exceedingly angry, O LORD, and do

not remember iniquity forever. Now consider, we are all your people.  
The Word of the Lord.

**People**      **Thanks be to God.**

## PSALM 80:1-7, 16-18 *Qui regis Israel*

*All remain seated.*

*The Choir chants the Psalm to an Anglican chant by Henry Walford Davies (1869-1941).*

- 1 Hear, O Shepherd of Israel, leading Joseph like a flock; \*  
    shine forth, you that are enthroned upon the cherubim.
- 2 In the presence of Ephraim, Benjamin, and Manasseh, \*  
    stir up your strength and come to help us.
- 3 Restore us, O God of hosts; \*  
    show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 4 O LORD God of hosts, \*  
    how long will you be angered  
    despite the prayers of your people?
- 5 You have fed them with the bread of tears; \*  
    you have given them bowls of tears to drink.
- 6 You have made us the derision of our neighbors, \*  
    and our enemies laugh us to scorn.
- 7 Restore us, O God of hosts; \*  
    show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.
- 16 Let your hand be upon the man of your right hand, \*  
    the son of man you have made so strong for yourself.
- 17 And so will we never turn away from you; \*  
    give us life, that we may call upon your Name.
- 18 Restore us, O LORD God of hosts; \*  
    show the light of your countenance, and we shall be saved.

## THE SECOND LESSON: 1 CORINTHIANS 1:3-9

*All remain seated as the lesson is read.*

*Reader*

A Reading from the First Letter of Paul to the Corinthians.

Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that has been given you in Christ Jesus, for in every way you have been enriched in him, in speech and knowledge of every kind-- just as the testimony of Christ has been strengthened among you-- so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ. He will also strengthen you to the end, so that you may be blameless on the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. God is faithful; by him you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

The Word of the Lord

*People*

**Thanks be to God.**

## SEQUENCE HYMN (#73)

*All stand and sing the hymn.*

1 The King shall come when morn - ing dawns and  
2 Not, as of old, a lit - tle child, to  
3 The King shall come when morn - ing dawns and  
4 and let the end - less bliss be - gin, by  
5 The King shall come when morn - ing dawns and



1 light tri - um - phant breaks; when beau - ty gilds the  
 2 bear, and fight, and die, but crowned with glo - ry  
 3 earth's dark night is past; O haste the ris - ing  
 4 wear - y saints fore - told, when right shall tri - umph  
 5 light and beau - ty brings: Hail, Christ the Lord! Thy

1 east - ern hills and life to joy a - wakes.  
 2 like the sun that lights the morn - ing sky.  
 3 of that morn, the day that e'er shall last;  
 4 o - ver wrong, and truth shall be ex - tolled.  
 5 peo - ple pray, come quick - ly, King of kings.

Words: Greek; tr. John Brownlie (1859-1925), alt.  
 Music: *St. Stephen*, William Jones (1726-1800), alt.

## THE HOLY GOSPEL: MARK 13:24-37

*All remain standing for the Gospel.*

*Deacon* ✠ The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Mark.

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

*Deacon* Jesus said, “In those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see ‘the Son of Man coming in clouds’ with great power and glory. Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven. “From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that summer is near. So also, when you see these things taking

place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away. “But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.”

The Gospel of our Lord

*People*      **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

## THE SERMON

*All are seated for the sermon by the Reverend Matthew Hoxsie Mead.*

## NICENE CREED

*All stand and join in saying the Nicene Creed.*

*Celebrant*

We believe in one God,

*All*

**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 worshiped 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 OF THE PEOPLE (FORM VI)

*All remain standing. The reader and people pray responsively.*

*Deacon* In peace let us pray to the Lord.  
For all people in their daily life and work;  
*People* **For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

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

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

*Deacon* 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.**

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

*Deacon* For Michael, our Presiding Bishop, For Matthew, Andy,  
Allen, and Mary, our Bishops; and for all bishops and other ministers;

***People*** For all who serve God in the Church.

For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, especially  
(*prayer list, Armed Forces*)

*Silence is observed. The People may add their own petitions.*

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

*Deacon* We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life, especially  
(*birthday/ anniversaries*)

*Silence is observed. The People may add their own thanksgivings*

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

*Deacon* We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal  
kingdom, especially (*departed*).

*Silence is observed. The People may add their own petitions.*

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

*Deacon* We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

*Silence is observed. The People kneel as you are able.*

***All*** 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.**

*The Celebrant stands. The People remain kneeling.*

*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.

***All* Amen.**

## THE PEACE

*All stand.*

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

***People* And also with you.**

## WELCOME & OFFERTORY SENTENCE

*All are seated for a brief welcome and announcements from Father Matthew Mead. The announcements conclude with the following or some other offertory sentence.*

I appeal to you, brethren, by the mercies of God, to present yourselves as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship.

## OFFERTORY CAROL

*All are seated as the choir sings 3. While the careless world is sleeping from Three Advent Carols, Op. 73 by Francis Jackson (1917-2022). During the carol, the gifts of bread and wine are prepared at the altar and an offering is taken.*

While the careless world is sleeping,  
Blest the servants who are keeping  
Watch, according to his word,  
For the coming of their Lord.

Heard ye not your Master's warning?  
He will come before the morning,  
Unexpected, undescried;  
Watch ye for him open-eyed.

Teach us so to watch, Lord Jesus;  
From the sleep of sin release us:  
Swift to hear thee let us be,  
Meet to enter in with thee.

God who with all good provides us,  
God who made, who saved, who guides us,  
Praise we with the heav'nly host,  
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

– B. H. Kennedy (1804-1889), alt.

## OFFERTORY HYMN (#56, VS.1)

*All stand and sing the hymn as the offering is brought to the altar and blessed.*

**O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel,  
that mourns in lonely exile here  
until the Son of God appear.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel  
shall come to thee, O Israel!**

**Words:** Latin, ca. 9th cent.; ver. *Hymnal 1940*, alt.

**Music:** *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*, plainsong, Mode 1, Processionale, 15th cent.; adapt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890); acc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937)

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

*All remain standing.*

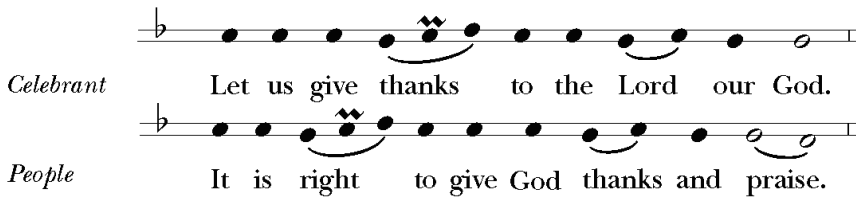
The musical notation consists of four staves, each with a treble clef and a key signature of one flat (B-flat). The lyrics are as follows:

**Celebrant**      The Lord be with you.

**People**            And al - so with you.

**Celebrant**      Lift up your hearts.

**People**            We lift them to the Lord.

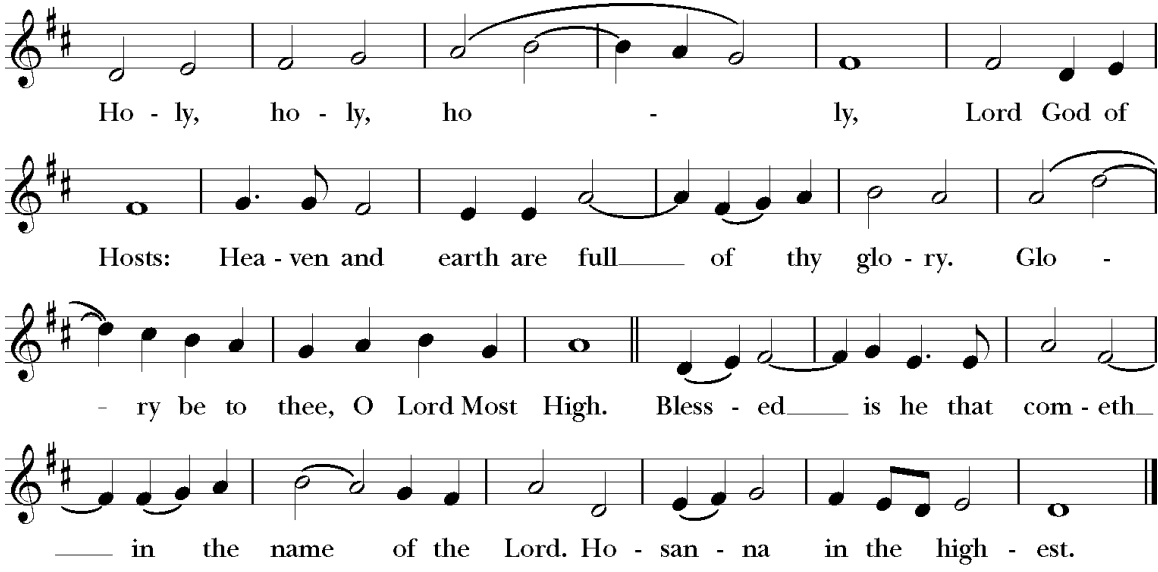


*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* It is right to give God thanks and praise.

*Celebrant* It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth; because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. 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:

*All sing "Holy, holy, holy" (#S 114)*



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, Lord God of  
 Hosts: Hea - ven and earth are full of thy glo - ry. Glo -  
 - ry be to thee, O Lord Most High. Bless - ed is he that com - eth  
 in the name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Music: From *Missa de Sancta Maria Magdalena*, Healey Willan (1880-1968)  
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*Celebrant* 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."

*Celebrant*





*Celebrant*

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.

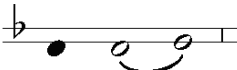
We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Sacrament of the Body of Christ and his Blood of the new Covenant. Unite ✠ us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, being sanctified by the Holy Spirit. In the fullness of time, put all things in subjection under your Christ, and bring us to that heavenly country where, with Mary, the Virgin Mother of God and 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,



*Celebrant*

now and for ev - er.



*People*

**A - MEN.**

*Celebrant*  
**All**

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**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,**

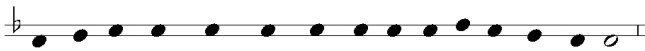
**but deliver us from evil.**

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,**

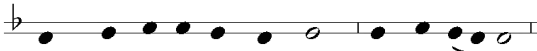
**for ever and ever. Amen.**

# THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is observed.*

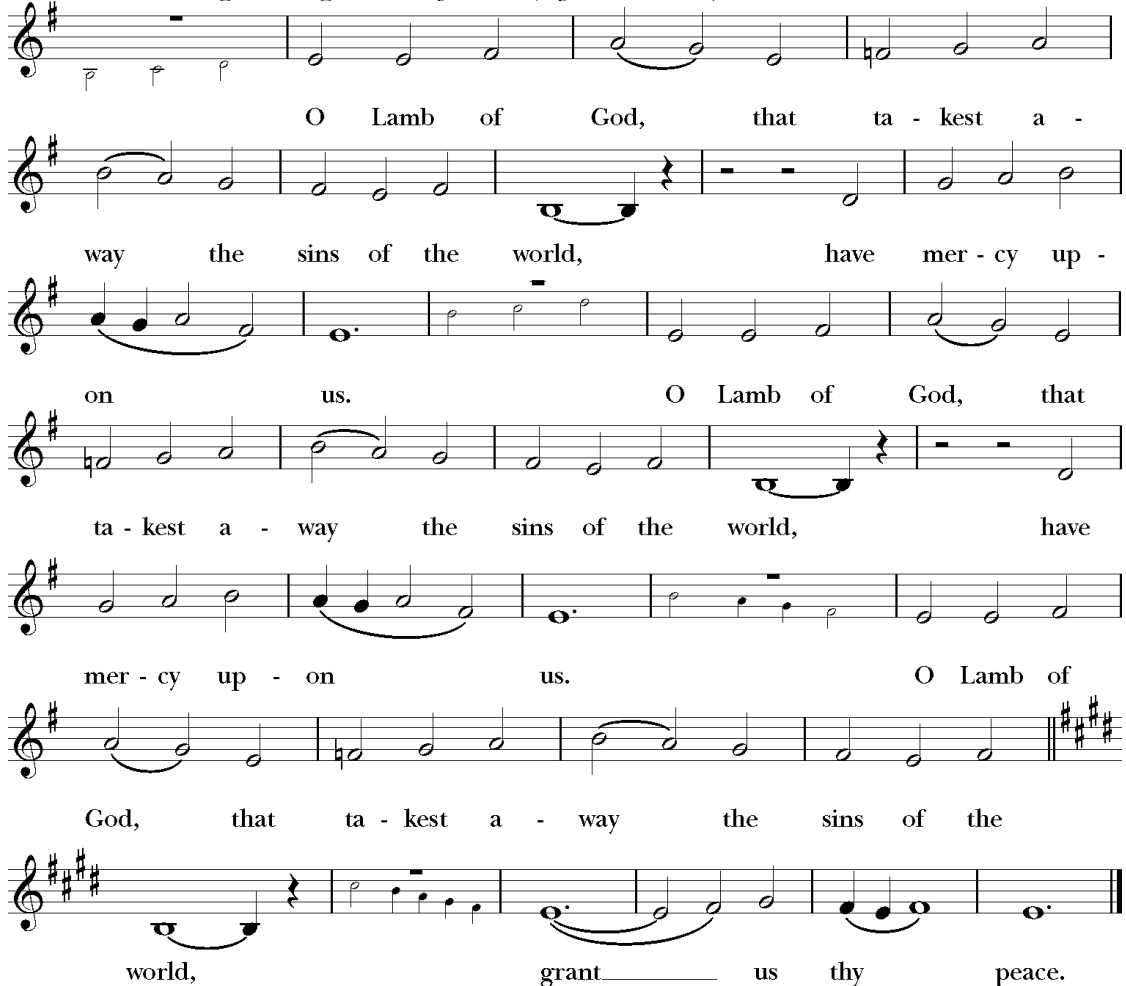


*Celebrant* Al - le - lu - ia. Christ our Pass-ov-er is sac-ri-ficed for us;



*People* There-fore let us keep the feast. Al - le - lu - ia.

*All remain standing and sing "Lamb of God" (Hymn #S 158)*



O Lamb of God, that ta - kest a -  
way the sins of the world, have mer - cy up -  
on us. O Lamb of God, that  
ta - kest a - way the sins of the world, have  
mer - cy up - on us. O Lamb of  
God, that ta - kest a - way the sins of the  
world, grant us thy peace.

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## INVITATION TO HOLY COMMUNION

*The Celebrant invites the people to receive the Holy Communion saying this or some other invitation.*

*Celebrant*      The Gifts of God for the people of God. [Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith with thanksgiving.]

*All baptized persons, including children, are full members of the Body of Christ and are invited to participate in every aspect of the service and receive the Holy Communion. Members of other Christian churches who are baptized are also invited to receive the Body and Blood of Christ. Persons who do not wish to receive Holy Communion are also invited to come forward with everyone else to receive a blessing (cross your arms over your chest to indicate that you want a blessing and not Holy Communion).*

## COMMUNION MOTET

*During the ministration of Holy Communion, the choir sings the motet O Heiland, reiß die Himmel auf by Hugo Distler (1908-1942).*

O Heiland, reiß die Himmel auf,  
herab, herab, vom Himmel lauf.  
Reiß ab vom Himmel Tor und Tür,  
reiß ab, wo Schloß und Riegel für!

*O Savior, tear the heavens wide!  
come down from heaven to abide!  
The gates of heaven tear away;  
break down where locks and bars hold sway!*

O klare Sonn', du schöner Stern,  
dich wollten wir anschauen gern.  
O Sonn', geh auf, ohn' deinen Schein  
in Finsternis wir alle sein.

*O brightest Sun, O sweetest Star,  
we long to see You from afar!  
O Sun, ascend! Without Your light  
we all abide in darkest night.*

– Friedrich Spee (1591–1635), after *Rorate caeli*, Köln, 1621;  
translated by Kelly Dean Hansen, PhD

## POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

*All kneel as you are able.*

*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.**

## BLESSING OF THE PLEDGE CARDS

*Fr. Matt will Bless the Pledge Cards.*

## BLESSING

*Celebrant* May Almighty God, by whose providence our Savior Christ came among us in great humility, sanctify you with the light of his blessing and set you free from all sin; and the blessing of God Almighty, ✠ the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you.

*People* **Amen.**

# PROCESSIONAL HYMN (#57)

*All stand and sing the hymn as the ministers process to the back of the church.*



1 Lo! he comes, with clouds de - scend - ing, once for  
2 Ev - ery eye shall now be - hold him, robed in  
3 Those dear tok - ens of his pas - sion still his  
4 Yea, a - men! let all a - dore thee, high on



our sal - va - tion slain; thou - sand thou - sand  
dread - ful ma - jes - ty; those who set at  
daz - zling bo - dy bears, cause of end - less  
thine e - ter - nal throne; Sa - vior, take the



saints at - tend - ing swell the tri - umph of his  
nought and sold him, pierced, and nailed him to the  
ex - ul - ta - tion to his ran - somed wor - ship -  
power and glo - ry; claim the king - dom for thine



train: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!  
tree, deep - ly wail - ing, deep - ly wail - ing,  
ers; with what rap - ture, with what rap - ture,  
own: Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! Christ the Lord re - turns to reign.  
deep - ly wail - ing, shall the true Mes - si - ah see.  
with what rap - ture gaze we on those glo - rious scars!  
Al - le - lu - ia! Thou shalt reign, and thou a - lone.

**Words:** Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

**Music:** *Helmsley*, melody Thomas Augustine Arne (1710-1778); harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958), alt.;

last verse harmonization by David Willcocks (1919-2015), used with permission under OneLicense.net license A-713125.

## DISMISSAL & ORGAN VOLUNTARY

*Deacon*            Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

***People***            **Thanks be to God.**

*If you are staying in your pew for the Voluntary, please be courteous to those who are listening to the music by remaining quiet.*

Chorale-prelude “Wachet auf, ruft uns die Stimme,” BWV 645 by *Johann Sebastian Bach* (1685-1750)

## PRAYERS FOR HEALING AT THE BOLTON ALTAR

*Following the Eucharist every Sunday prayers for healing with the anointing of Holy Oil are offered by Deacon Chisara or Father Matt. Come to the altar and tell the priest or deacon what you want to pray for.*

## ABOUT THE MUSIC

*Choral Selections:*

**Francis Jackson** (1917-2022) was born in Malton, Yorkshire and was a chorister at York Minster under Edward Bairstow. He sang in the Minster choir as a boy chorister for four years and then returned to Malton to be organist of the parish church, while continuing as Bairstow’s private pupil. He attained the honor of Fellow of the Royal College of Organists in 1937. Military service during World War II interrupted his education and he apparently never completed an undergraduate degree program, but in 1946 he was appointed organist and Master of the Music at York Minster, succeeding Bairstow, a position he held until his retirement in 1982 and where he became world renowned as a virtuoso organist and choirmaster, as well as a composer. He earned a doctorate in Music at Durham University in 1957 and was made a Fellow of Westminster Choir College, Princeton, New Jersey in 1970. He served as president of the Royal College of Organists from 1970 until 1972. In 1978 he was appointed to the Order of the British Empire for his services to music and promoted to Commander of the British Empire in 2007. In 2012, the Archbishop of Canterbury conferred on him a Lambeth Doctorate of Music for his long and distinguished service to the music of the Anglican Communion. Since his retirement, Dr. Jackson has continued to serve as an organ recitalist and prolific composer in many genres, but especially in music for the church and for the organ. Dr. Jackson celebrated his 100<sup>th</sup> birthday on October 2, 2017.

Dr. Jackson’s mostly a cappella *Three Advent Carols*, Op. 73 date from the late 1980s. The third, *While the careless world is sleeping* echoes the scriptural themes of the First Sunday of Advent in a poem by the distinguished 19<sup>th</sup> century classicist Benjamin Hall Kennedy, Regius Professor of Greek at Cambridge University and Canon of Ely Cathedral. This is the only one of the three carols for which Jackson composed an organ accompaniment.

**Hugo Distler** (1908-1942) was born in Nuremberg, Germany and was educated in the Leipzig Conservatory, where he first studied conducting and piano and then organ and composition. He was an organ student of the famous Günther Ramin. Upon his graduation from the conservatory in 1931, Distler was appointed organist for St. Jacobi (St. James's Church) in Lübeck, a noteworthy 14<sup>th</sup> century Gothic brick church in the old city that is a well known way stop for pilgrims from North Germany on the Camino del Santiago. One of the few churches that was undamaged during the Allied bombings during the Second World War, this church was home to two noteworthy historic pipe organs from the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> centuries during this period, which can still be heard today, along with a third historic instrument more recently added to the church's collection. In 1933, Distler became head of the chamber music department at the Lübeck Conservatory and began teaching at the Spandauer Kirchemuskschule (the Spandau school of church music). In 1935, Distler came to international acclaim as a composer when portions of his *Möricke-Chorliederbuch*, a collection of part songs on the poetry of Eduard Möricke (1804-1875) were performed at the German Choral Music Festival in Graz, Austria. In 1937, he was appointed a lecturer and the choral director for the Württemberg Hochschule für Musik in Stuttgart and in 1940, he moved to Berlin to a similar position in that city's Hochschule für Musik and was appointed conductor of the state and cathedral choir in Berlin in 1942, a prominent post that brought him into the conflict between church and state in Nazi Germany.

While Distler had joined the Nazi Party, reluctantly, in 1933 as a condition of his employment, he grew increasingly troubled by that party's activities, fearful of being conscripted into the German army, depressed about the deaths of several friends, the Allied bombing, and from having been branded a composer of "degenerate music" by the official Nazi arbiters of culture; ultimately dying by suicide in 1942, unable to reconcile his conscience with "attempting to serve both God and the Nazis." Distler's motet "*O Heiland rei die Himmel auf*" (*O Savior, rend the heavens open*) is a choral setting of the 16<sup>th</sup> century German Jesuit Friedrich Spee's adaptation of *Rorate caeli desuper*, known in English as the Advent Prose, a medieval sequence for Advent.

*Organ selections:*

**Jeanne Marie-Madeleine Demessieux** (1921-1968) was a child prodigy, born in Montpellier. A protégé of the great French recitalist Marcel Dupré in the Paris Conservatoire, she became the first woman organist to sign a recording contract. Known as a recitalist who played a vast repertoire from memory, she served as titular organist in Paris first at the church of Saint-Esprit, where she played for 29 years, and from 1962 until her death, at La Madeleine. Her chorale-prelude on the Gregorian melody "*Rorate caeli desuper*" captures the longing inherent to this beautiful melody, clothing it in a contemplative harmonic setting.

# CHRIST CHURCH

Episcopal/Anglican

## Clergy & Staff

The Reverend Matthew Hoxsie Mead, *Rector*  
The Reverend Deacon Chisara Alimole  
Mr. Jeffrey Hoffman, *Organist and Choirmaster*  
Ms. Marie Main, *Parish Administrator*  
Mr. Evan Felicetti, *Director of Children's Ministries*  
Mr. Walter Roberts, *Vergers and Sexton*  
Mr. Ed Blue, *Sexton*

## Wardens & Vestry

The Reverend Matthew Hoxsie Mead, *Rector*  
Mr. Jeff Bodenmann, *Senior Warden*  
Ms. Etta Gumbs, *Junior Warden*  
Ms. Allison Bodenmann, *Treasurer*  
Mr. John Fox, *Assistant Treasurer*  
Ms. Jean Gruener, *Clerk*

Ms. Jennifer Hawks Bland	Mr. John Fox
Mr. J.D. Calder	Mr. Jack Kraft
Mr. Andy Des Rault	Mr. Robert Landis
Mr. Stephen Dolan	Ms. Courtney McGrory
Ms. Barbara Zambelli	

***The Holy Eucharist is celebrated on Sundays at 8 and 10 a.m.***  
***Morning Prayer is read on, Tuesdays at 10:30 a.m. on Zoom***

† A Parish of the Diocese of New York †

## Christ Church

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***Christ Church Pelham is a Christian community in the Episcopal tradition.***  
***As members of the Body of Christ, we are dedicated to spiritual growth***  
***and committed to serving God through worship and***  
***service to our community and the world.***