Evensong
THURSDAY IN THE THIRD WEEK OF ADVENT • 15 DECEMBER 2022 • 5:30 PM

VOLUNTARY
The silver stars are in the sky
Robert Ampt

OPENING SENTENCE
The people stand as the procession enters.
Said by the officiant.

The Invitatory and Psalter

PRECES
The people remain standing.
John Kelley

Officiant
O Lord, open thou our lips.

Choir
And our mouth shall shew forth thy praise.
O God, make speed to save us.
O Lord, make haste to help us.
Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.
Praise ye the Lord.
The Lord’s name be praised.

HYMN 25
Sung by all, standing.
The Eighth Tune

text: Greek, 3rd cent.; tr. F. Bland Tucker (1895-1984); para. Of O Gracious Light; music: Thomas Tallis (1505?-1585); adapt. Hymnal 1982

O Gracious Light, Lord Jesus shines forth, in you the Father’s glory shone. Immortal, holy, Son of God, Life-giving Lord; wherefore you are through blest is he, and blest are you, his holy Son.
Spirit: God who dwells in the eternal light.
all the earth and in the highest heaven adored.
CANTICLE 9

Surely, it is God who saves me; *
I will trust in him and not be afraid.
For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, *
and he will be my Savior.
Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing *
from the springs of salvation.
And on that day you shall say, *
Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;
Make his deeds known among the peoples; *
see that they remember that his Name is exalted.
Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, *
and this is known in all the world.
Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, *
for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One of Israel.

The Canticle concludes with a doxology.

The Readings

THE FIRST READING

A reading from the the Book of the Prophet Zephaniah.

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

THE MAGNIFICAT

My soul doth magnify the Lord, and my spirit hath rejoiced in God my Savior. For he hath regarded the lowliness of his handmaiden. For behold from henceforth all generations shall call me blessed. For he that is mighty hath magnified me, and holy is his Name. And his mercy is on them that fear him throughout all generations. He hath showed strength with his arm; he hath scattered the proud in the imagination of their hearts. He hath put down the mighty from their seat, and hath exalted the humble and meek. He hath filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he hath sent empty away. He remembering his mercy hath holpen his servant Israel, as he promised to our forefathers, Abraham and his seed for ever. Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire.” And the crowds asked him, “What then should we do?” In reply he said to them, “Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise.” Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, “Teacher, what should we do?” He said to them, “Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.” Soldiers also asked him, “And we, what should we do?” He said to them, “Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages.” As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.” So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

The people sit.

THE NUNC DIMITTIS

Choir 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 be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. – Luke 2:29–32

The people stand.

THE APOSTLES’ CREED

All I believe in God, the Father almighty, maker of heaven and earth; 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. And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; I believe in the Holy Ghost, who was conceived the holy catholic Church, by the Holy Ghost, the communion of saints, born of the Virgin Mary, the forgiveness of sins, suffered under Pontius Pilate, the resurrection of the body, was crucified, dead, and buried. and the life everlasting. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead. Amen.
The Prayers

Officiant  The Lord be with you.
Choir    And with thy spirit.
Officiant  Let us pray.  The people may kneel.
Lord have mercy upon us.
Christ have mercy upon us. Lord have mercy upon us.

THE LORD’S PRAYER  Sung on a monotone.
All  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 SUFFRAGES  Sung by the officiant, beginning with the text below.
Officiant  O Lord, show thy mercy upon us.
Choir   And grant us thy salvation.
O Lord, save this land.
And mercifully hear us when we call upon thee.
Endue thy ministers with righteousness.
And make thy chosen people joyful.
O Lord, save thy people.
And bless thine inheritance.
Give peace in our time, O Lord.
Because there is none other that fighteth for us, but only thou, O God.
O God, make clean our hearts within us.
And take not thy Holy Spirit from us.

THE COLLECTS  Sung by the officiant, beginning with the text below.
Officiant  Stir up thy power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we
are sorely hindered by our sins, let thy bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and
deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Ghost,
be honor and glory, world without end. Amen.
Choir

Peace be to you and grace from him
who freed us from our sins,
who loved us all and shed his blood
that we might saved be.

Sing holy, holy to our Lord,
the Lord, Almighty God,
who was and is and is to come;
Sing holy, holy, Lord!

Rejoice in heaven, all ye that dwell therein,
rejoice on earth, ye saints below,
for Christ is coming, is coming soon,
for Christ is coming soon!

E’en so, Lord Jesus, quickly come,
and night shall be no more;
They need no light nor lamp nor sun,
for Christ will be their All!

- Revelation 22, adapted by Ruth Manz

CLOSING PRAYERS

All may kneel.

The Rev. Mark Stanger

HYMN 640

Watchman, tell us of the night, what its signs of promise are.
Watchman, tell us of the night, higher yet that star ascends.
Watchman, tell us of the night, for the morning seems to dawn.

Traveller o’er yon mountain’s height, see that glory beam-ing star.
Traveller, bless ed ness and light, peace and truth its course portends.
Traveller, darkness takes its flight, doubt and terror are with-drawn.

Watchman, does its beau-tious ray aught of joy or hope fore tell?
Watchman, will its beams a lone gild the spot that gave them birth?
Watchman, let thy wan derings cease; hie thee to thy qui et home.

Traveller, yes; it brings the day, promised day of Is ra el.
Traveller ages are its own; see, it bursts o’er all the earth.
Traveller, lo! the Prince of Peace, lo! the Son of God is come!

text: John Bowring (1792-1872); music: Joseph Parry (1841-1903)

VOLUNTARY

Prelude on Psalm 139:11

Herbert Howells
SERVING THE ASSEMBLY

Officiant  The Very Rev. Dr. Malcolm Clemens Young, Dean
Prayers  The Rev. Mark Stanger
Lectors  The Rev. Mary Carter Greene, Minister for Congregational Life
         The Rev. Dr. Greg Kimura, Vice Dean
Musicians  The Cathedral Choir of Men and Boys
          Gabriel Fanelli, Choirmaster
          Christopher Keady, Interim Director of Music
          Christopher Pharo, AAM Gerre Hancock Intern for Sacred Music
ADVENT SALE
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 18, AT 12:30 P.M. IN GRESHAM HALL
Our annual Advent Sale continues today! Join us downstairs in Gresham Hall for crafts and treats created by cathedral ministries, with proceeds supporting projects in Children, Youth, and Family Ministries.

PROJECTING GRACE: CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION
DECEMBER 18–JANUARY 2, 6:30–9:30 P.M. AT GRACE CATHEDRAL
The cathedral façade becomes transformed as beautifully represented Christmas stories are displayed accompanied by dramatic music.

CHRISTMAS CONCERTS AT GRACE CATHEDRAL
DECEMBER 19–23, MULTIPLE PERFORMANCES AVAILABLE
It’s not too late to catch Soulful Joy on December 19, A Cathedral Christmas with the Choir of Men and Boys on December 23, or Sing You A Merry Christmas on the 21st and 22nd. Join us for one or all! View showtimes and grab tickets today at gracecathedral.org/christmas.

END SLAVERY FOR GOOD: YOUTH TEACH-IN AND ART PROJECT
FOR THE MLK WEEKEND
SUNDAY, JANUARY 15, 1–7 P.M. AT GRACE CATHEDRAL
Youth aged 12-18 are invited to this special event led by Mural Arts Philadelphia, the nation’s largest public art program. Learn about the national movement to remove the “slavery clause” of the 13th Amendment, and create a banner to be displayed at the cathedral and presented at the 6 p.m. service the same day. Lunch and snacks provided, and all are welcome to stay for dinner and a celebratory presentation of the banner. Please send questions and RSVP to Steph McNally at stephm@gracecathedral.org.

CHRISTMAS SERVICES AT GRACE CATHEDRAL

CHRISTMAS EVE, DECEMBER 24
11 a.m. The Bishop’s Christmas Pageant
Bishop Marc, children in costume, and animals re-enact the Christmas story. For the welfare of the whole community, we kindly ask that service attendees remain masked for the duration of the pageant.

4 p.m. Christmas Lessons & Carols
Choral music, Scripture readings and hymns with the Choir of Men and Boys. This service fills to capacity – plan to arrive early!

7:30 p.m. Christmas Eve Choral Eucharist
The first Eucharist of Christmas, sung by a mixed-voice choir. The Right Rev. Dr. Marc Handley Andrus, Bishop, preaching, and The Very Rev. Dr. Malcolm Clemens Young, Dean, presiding.

11 p.m. Christmas Eve Choral Eucharist
A festive Choral Eucharist with the Choir of Men and Boys and an orchestra. The Very Rev. Dr. Malcolm Clemens Young, Dean, preaching, and the Right Rev. Dr. Marc Handley Andrus, Bishop, presiding.

CHRISTMAS DAY, DECEMBER 25
11 a.m. Christmas Day Choral Eucharist
Celebrate Christmas Day, the birth of the Word made Flesh, with Holy Eucharist, sung by a mixed voice quartet.
A few years ago, I had an impulsive and quite uncharacteristic desire to go to church. I hadn’t attended a service in 35 years and didn’t consider myself religious or even that spiritual. But I had this idea that church would provide regular positive messages, an opportunity to build community, and a means to make a difference locally.

My gradually deepening relationship with the Grace community happened virtually due to Covid. when I worshipped online, participated in small group discussions, and listened to archived sermons on YouTube on long walks in the Presidio. Grace’s mission of reimagining church has resonance for me as someone who continues to attend remotely more often than in person. The cathedral has a greater reach than what we experience here physically. I am particularly interested in exploring how we deepen our engagement with the many congregation members who worship online.

I pledge to stewardship in honor of how Grace has offered me intellectual challenge, guideposts for my nascent faith, quiet contemplation amid my otherwise frenetic life, and even an opportunity to go on a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. I have found what I was seeking at the beginning of my journey: reminders of how to interact positively as I go about my days and an opportunity to serve.

Together we really are reimagining church.

—Erin McCune, Member, Congregation Council and Stewardship Committee

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**2023 STEWARDSHIP**

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**PRAY TOGETHER**

**MORNING PRAYER:** ZOOM
MONDAY—FRIDAY AT 9 A.M.
*EXCEPT FOR HOLIDAYS*

**EVENING PRAYER:**
CHAPEL OF GRACE AND ZOOM
TUESDAYS AT 5:30 P.M.

**MIDDAY EUCHARIST:**
CHAPEL OF THE NATIVITY
WEDNESDAYS AT 12 P.M.

**THE VINE:** CONTEMPORARY WORSHIP IN PERSON
WEDNESDAYS AT 6:30 P.M.

**CHORAL EVENSONG:**
IN PERSON AND LIVESTREAM
THURSDAYS AT 5:30 P.M.

**HOLY EUCHARIST WITH HYMNS:**
IN PERSON
SUNDAYS AT 8:30 A.M.

**CHORAL EUCHARIST:**
IN PERSON AND LIVESTREAM
SUNDAYS AT 11 A.M.

**VESPER LIGHT:** EVENING EUCHARIST IN PERSON AND ZOOM
SUNDAYS AT 6 P.M.

GRACE CATHEDRAL IS AN EPISCOPAL CHURCH, A MEMBER OF THE WORLDWIDE ANGLICAN COMMUNION.