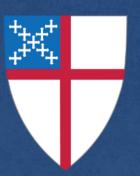


What is a labyrinth?



The labyrinth is an ancient sacred symbol of pilgrimage to the Divine. Early Christians took a vow to visit the Holy City of Jerusalem at some point in their lives, but during the Middle Ages, travel was unsafe, and other means were needed to fulfill that sacred commitment. Labyrinths were adopted by the Roman Church to offer a way of fulfilling the sacred pilgrimage vow.

Unlike a maze, the labyrinth has only one path which leads to the center and out again. There are no tricks, dead ends, cul-de-sacs, or intersecting paths. There are no choices to be made, other than the primary one. the decision to enter the path. The path winds throughout and becomes a mirror for where we are in our own lives. Walking the path is a letting go of daily concerns and opening ourselves to God's healing presence in the center. The insights we receive are then taken back out the path into our lives.

Walking the labyrinth just naturally causes our attention to start turning inward, focusing in the present moment. Labyrinths can be used as a spiritual practice to help relieve stress, to help people work through grief, and also to provide comfort during illness. At the most basic level, walking the labyrinth focuses the attention, stills the mind, and quiets the breathing.







Sunday, November 30, 2025



WELCOME! GOD IS GLAD YOU'RE HERE (AND SO ARE WE!)





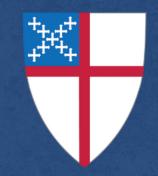


Processional

"Sleepers Wake! A Voice Astounds Us"

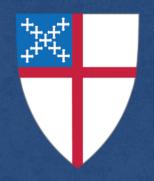
Wachet Auf (H 61)





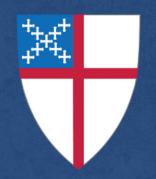
"Sleepers, wake!" A voice astounds us, The shout of rampart-guards surrounds us: "Awake, Jerusalem, arise!"





Midnight's peace their cry has broken, Their urgent summons clearly spoken: "The time has come, O maidens wise!





Rise up, and give us light; The Bridegroom is in sight. Alleluia!

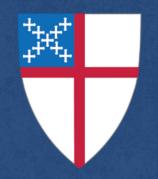
Your lamps prepare and hasten there, That you the wedding feast may share."





Lamb of God, the heav'ns adore you; Let saints and angels sing before you, As harps and cymbals swell the sound.





Twelve great pearls, the city's portals:

Through them we stream

to join the-immortals

As we with joy your throne surround.





No eye has known the sight, No ear heard such delight: Alleluia!

Therefore we sing to greet our King; For ever let our praises ring.









Advent Wreath Lighting

"Prepare the Way"

Joel Raney





A candle of hope to light our way,
With longing hearts, we watch and pray.
Creator of the stars of night;
Your people's everlasting light.
Come, O come, Emmanuel.



Prepare the way of the Lord. Make way for the Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords, Jesus, Emmanuel. Prepare the way, Prepare the way.

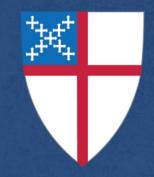






As we enter this season of Advent. we gather with anticipation, waiting for the arrival of the one who bring light into our darkness. The first candle represents the hope we have in Christ. We await the coming of Emmanuel with hearts full of expectation, knowing that he will bring new life to all creation.





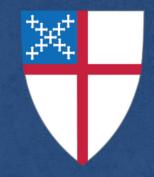
When we feel weary or burdened, we trust the God who renews our strength and fills our hearts with hope.





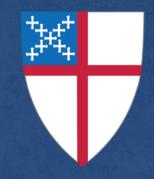
When we see injustice and suffering, we are reminded of the coming Christ who will make things right.





In our times of struggle, may we remember the promises of God who is with us, guiding us toward a future of restoration.





As we wait for the Christ child, may our hearts be open to his light, and our lives be ready to reflect his love and grace.





As we walk this Advent journey, may we be bearers of hope to those around us, proclaiming with our lives that Christ is near. O Emmanuel, God with us, we place our hope in you.









Come, O Come, Emmanuel!



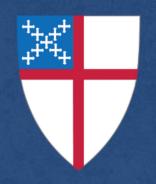
Prepare the way of the Lord. Make way for the Prince of Peace, King of kings, Lord of lords, Jesus, Emmanuel. Prepare the way, Prepare the way.







Please be seated for the scripture lessons.



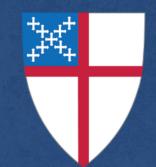




First Reading

Isaiah 2:1-5





The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house

shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills;



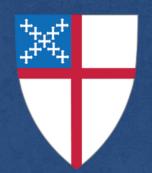


all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say,

'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob;

that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.'



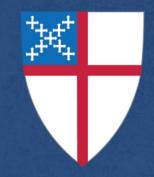


For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.

He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples;

they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks;





The Word of the Lord.

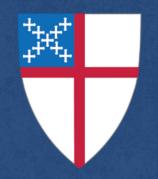
Thanks be to God.







Please stand as you are able.



The Psalm

Psalm 122: I Was Glad Thomas Thangaraj

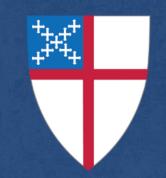




I was glad when they said they me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord," I was glad when they said they me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord," I was glad, I was glad, I was glad.



I was glad when they said to me, *
"Let us go to the house of the Lord."



Now our feet are standing * within your gates, O Jerusalem.

Jerusalem is built as a city * that is at unity with itself; To which the tribes go up,

the tribes of the LORD, *
the assembly of Israel,
to praise the Name of the LORD

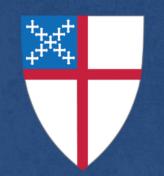




I was glad when they said they me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord," I was glad when they said they me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord," I was glad, I was glad, I was glad.







Pray for the peace of Jerusalem: *
"May they prosper who love you."

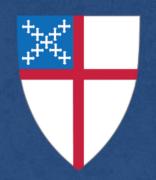
Peace be within your walls * and quietness within your towers.

For my brethren and companions' sake, *
I pray for your prosperity.

Because of the house of the LORD our God, *

I will seek to do you good."



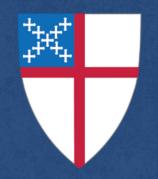


I was glad when they said they me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord," I was glad when they said they me, "Let us go to the house of the Lord," I was glad, I was glad, I was glad.









Second Reading

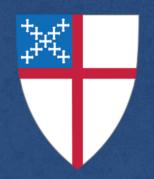
Romans 13:11-14





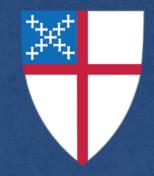
You know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light;





let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.





The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.







Please stand as you are able.



Sequence Hymn

"Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"

Picardy (H 324)









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

Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Matthew 24:36-44

Jesus said to the disciples, "But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man.







Matthew 24.36-44



Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming.







Matthew 24:36-44

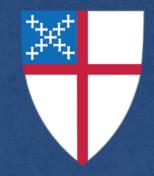


But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."









The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.





Let all mortal flesh keep silence, And with fear and trembling stand;

Ponder nothing earthly-minded, For with blessing in his hand

Christ our God on earth descendeth, Our full homage to demand.









The Children's Message

Rev. Stephen







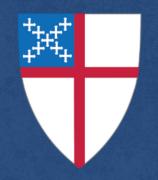


Seashells

"May All Children"

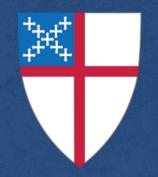
Kenneth K. Guilmartin





May, may all, may all children, May all people ev'rywhere Hear this pray.





May, may all, may all children, May all people ev'rywhere Live in peace.





Sweet peace.
Peaceful minds, peaceful hearts,
Peace on earth.
Sweet peace on earth.





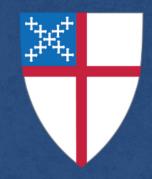




Sermon

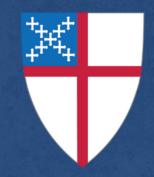
Rev. Stephen





Please take a few moments in silence to hear what the Spirit is saying to you.





The Nicene Creed

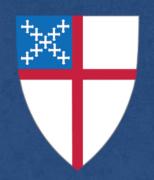
As the Celebrant stands, the congregation is invited to stand and say together:





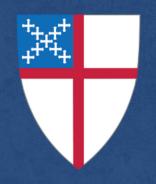
We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.





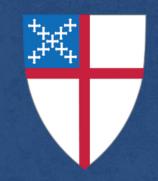
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ, the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father, God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God, begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.





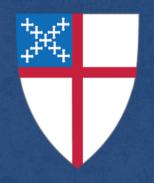
Through him all things were made. For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven: by the power of the Holy Spirit he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary and was made man.





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 worshiped and glorified. He has spoken through the Prophets.



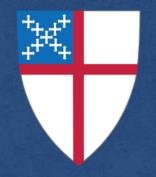


We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church. We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins. We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come. Amen.



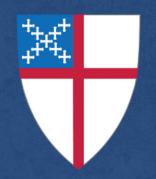






Prayers of The People





Deacon:

God of promise and light, we come before you in this season of waiting, longing for your presence to be born anew among us. Hear our prayers for the world you so deeply love.

Celebrant:

We pray for the world, for leaders seeking wisdom, and for communities longing for peace. May your justice and mercy flow into every dry and weary place.



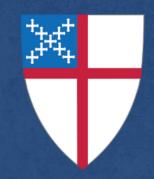
Strengthen us to be bearers of hope, welcoming the stranger, feeding the hungry, and proclaiming your good news in word and deed as we strive to become a church that looks and acts like Jesus.

We lift before you the sick, the grieving, the lonely, and the weary. Surround them with your healing presence and the comfort of your Spirit. May they know they are never forgotten.

We pray for saints who have gone to life eternal, especially Tom Hagerty, Yvonne Hagerty, Patty Devries, Pablo Gomez, Marie McCann, Joan Berger and Frank Kellen. Give holy rest to all who have died and wait in hope of life eternal.

In this season of preparation, quiet our anxious hearts. Teach us to wait with patience, to live with compassion, loving one another as you love us.





Celebrant:

God of Advent, we place all these prayers—spoken and unspoken—into your hands, trusting in your faithfulness. Come, Lord Jesus, and make all things new.

Amen.









Seashells







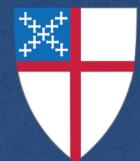
CONFESSION OF SIN



(The Rev. Deacon bids the confession)

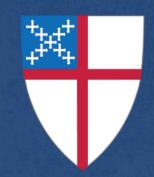
Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.





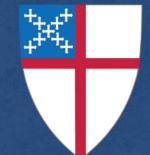
Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.





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.

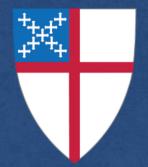




For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, Have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.



ABSOLUTION



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.

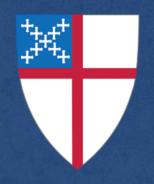
Amen.







THE PEACE



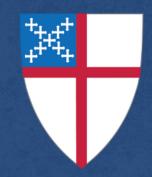
The peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.





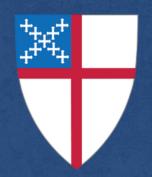




Announcements

Please be seated.





DIGITAL ANNOUNCEMENTS







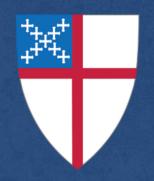
OFFERTORY SENTENCE



If you are offering your gift at the altar, and there remember that your sibling has something against you, leave your gift there before the altar and go; first be reconciled to your sibling, and then come and offer your gift. (Matthew 5:23, 24)



OFFERTORY



"O Come, O Come Emmanuel"

Veni Emmanuel, arr. G. Maddock

St. David's is entirely funded by the generosity of God manifested through its parishioners and community. If you would like to support our many ministries, please consider contributing to the offering plate, or online by scanning this QR code with your phone camera. See the back page of this bulletin for more information and giving options.







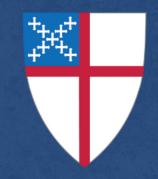




The Great Thanksgiving

Please stand as you are able.
The bells are rung three times as a reminder that we are now focused on the
Table portion of the Liturgy.



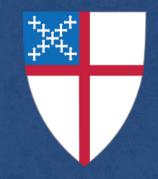


The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.
We lift them to the Lord.





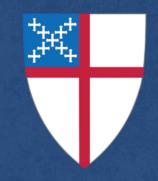
Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.



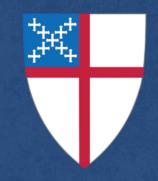






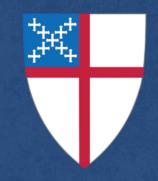
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.





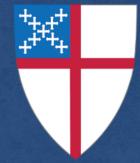
In fulfillment of his true promise, the Holy Spirit came down from heaven, lighting upon the disciples, to teach them and to lead them into all truth;





uniting peoples of many tongues in the confession of one faith, and giving to your Church the power to serve you as a royal priesthood, and to preach the Gospel to all nations.



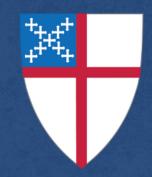


Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name.









Sanctus

"Holy, Holy"

Mass of a Peaceful Spirit

LaRosa





Holy, Holy, Holy Lord God of hosts.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.



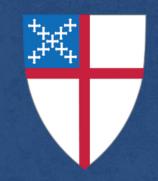


Blessed is he who comes
In the name of the Lord.
Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.
Hosanna, Hosanna in the highest.









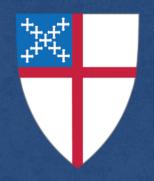
Holy and gracious God. In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and maker of all.



He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, 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,



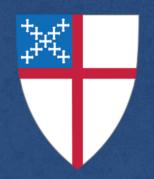


Take, eat, this is my Body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.









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 all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."





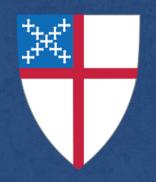




Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

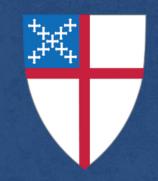
Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.





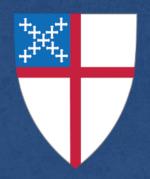
We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.





Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.





All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ.

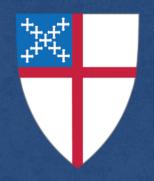
By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty God, now and for ever.

AMEN.









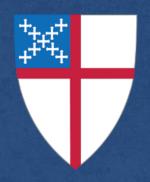
The bells are rung three times after the "Great Amen" as a reminder of the importance of the congregation's assent and affirmation of the Eucharistic Prayer.





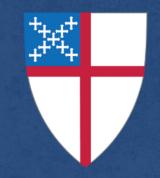


THE OUR FATHER



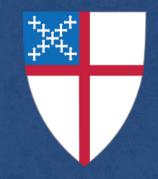
And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to pray:





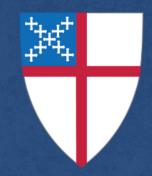
Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.





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.



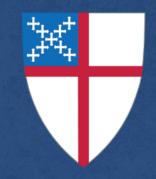






The Breaking of the Bread





Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia.









Fraction Hymn

"Lamb of God"

Mass of a Peaceful Spirit

LaRosa





Lamb of God,
you take away
the sins of the world,
Have mercy, have mercy on us.





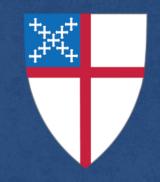
Lamb of God,
you take away
the sins of the world,
Have mercy, have mercy on us.





Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, Grant us, grant us peace.





Grant us peace,
Grant us peace,
Grant us peace,
Grant us, grant us peace.









This is the table, not of the Church, but of the Lord. It is made ready for those who love him and for those who want to love him more. So, come, you who have much faith and you who have little, you who have been here often and you who have not been here long, you who have tried to follow and you who have failed. Come, because it is the Lord who invites you. It is his will that those who want him should meet him here.



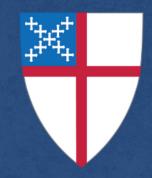


The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.









Holy Communion

The congregation remains seated until an usher invites them forward for Communion.

Jesus invites the whole world to be in a relationship with him. All baptized persons of any denomination are welcome to our Lord's Table where bread and wine are blessed and broken and shared in remembrance of Christ Jesus our Lord.

If you would like a blessing, please cross your arms over your chest.

Gluten-free wafers are available; please make your needs known to the ushers.

A healing minister will be near the entrance to provide healing prayers for anyone who would like a prayer for themselves or someone else during the distribution of the Holy Eucharist.

All are welcome.





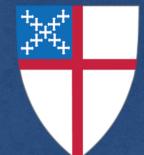




Communion Hymn

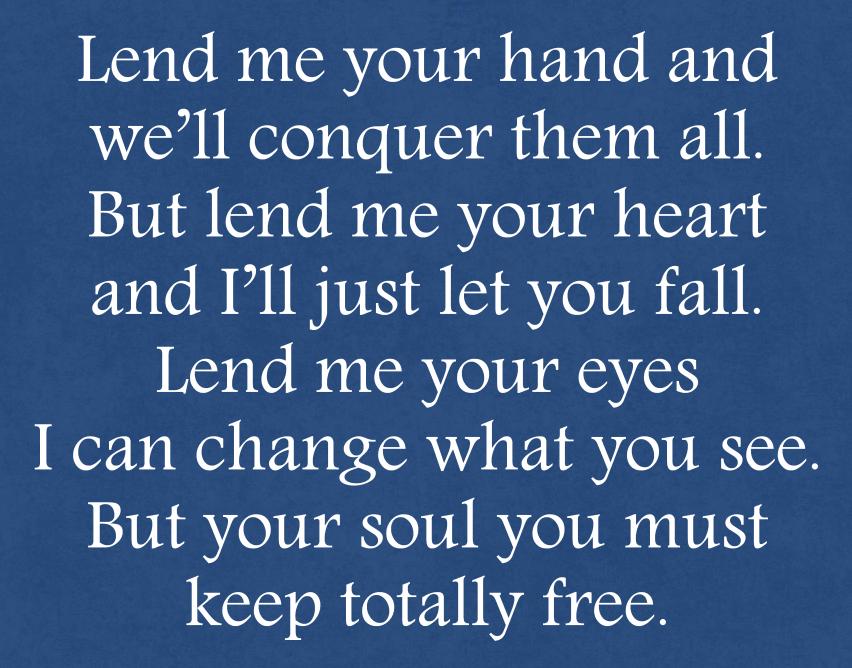
"Awake My Soul"
Marcus Mumford





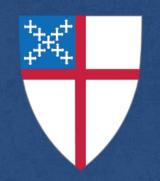
How fickle my heart and how woozy my eyes. I struggle to find any truth in your lies. And now my heart stumbles on things I don't know. My weakness I feel I must finally show.







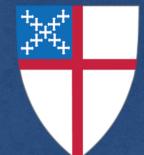




Ha ha, ha ha Ha ha, ha ha

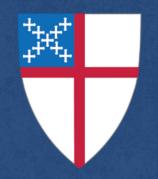
Awake my soul Awake my soul





How fickle my heart and how woozy my eyes. I struggle to find any truth in your lies. And now my heart stumbles on things I don't know. My weakness I feel I must finally show.





Ha ha, ha ha Ha ha, ha ha





In these bodies we will live
In these bodies we will die
Where you invest your love
You invest your life





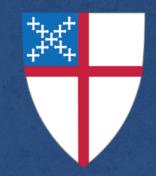
In these bodies we will live
In these bodies we will die
Where you invest your love
You invest your life





Awake my soul
Awake my soul
Awake my soul
Awake my soul
For you were made to meet your maker.





Awake my soul Awake my soul Awake my soul

For you were made to meet your maker. You were made to meet your maker.









Post-Communion Prayer

Celebrant: Let us pray together.





Almighty and everlasting God, you have given us bread from heaven to nourish our faith, increase our hope, and strengthen our love: teach us, we pray, to hunger for him who is the true and living bread, and enable us to live by every word that proceeds from your mouth: through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.





The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God, and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always.

Amen.







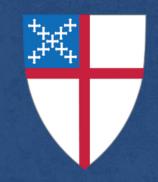


RECESSIONAL

"Come Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

Hyfrydol





Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
Born to set Thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us,
Let us find our rest in Thee.





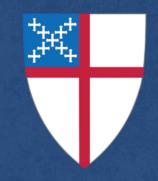
Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear desire of ev'ry nation,
Joy of ev'ry longing heart.





Born Thy people to deliver,
Born a child and yet a King;
Born to reign in us forever,
Now Thy gracious kingdom bring.



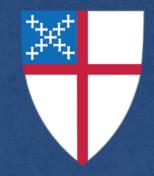


By thine own eternal Spirit Rule in all our hearts alone; By Thine all-sufficient merit, Raise us to Thy glorious throne. Raise us to Thy glorious throne!









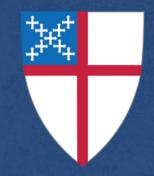
Let us go forth in the name of Christ. Alleluia, alleluia!

Thanks be to God! Alleluia, alleluia!









Postlude

