

# St. Barnabas

## EPISCOPAL PARISH

---

The Holy Eucharist

December 25, 2023

The Nativity of Jesus Christ  
*Christmas Day*

### **St. Barnabas Mission Statement**

**We experience God's redeeming love in all and through all and respond to love through faithful worship, life-long spiritual growth, and committed outreach.**

**Our community shares a progressive faith, opens our arms to all seekers, and works to make the world more just.**

*As on the first day of creation, on this Christmas Day the Word illumines the world, shining forth to bring all things into being. Today we celebrate the incarnate Word, God becoming flesh to live among us in the person of Jesus Christ then and now. Emboldened by the Good News of Christ's birth, along with the shepherd, Mary and Joseph, and all witnesses to the light of Christ, we declare to the world that we have indeed seen and been transformed by the arrival of "the salvation of our God." O come, let us adore! \*\**

---

### **THE GREETING**

#### **THE PRELUDE**

*Greensleeves*

Richard Purvis

# The Liturgy of Gathering

Please stand in body or spirit.

## THE GATHERING HYMN\*

Please stand in body or spirit.

### O Come, All Ye Faithful H-83

O come, all ye faith - ful, joy - ful and tri - um - phant, O  
 God from God, Light from Light e - ter - nal,  
 Sing, choirs of an - gels, sing in ex - ul - ta - tion,  
 See how the shep - herds, sum - moned to his cra - dle,  
 Child, for us sin - ners poor and in the man - ger,

come ye, O come ye to Beth - le - hem;  
 lo! he ab - hors not the Vir - gin's womb;  
 sing, all ye ci - ti - zens of heaven a - bove;  
 leav - ing their flocks, draw nigh to gaze;  
 we would em - brace thee, with love and awe;

come, and be - hold him, born the King of an - gels; O  
 on - ly - be - got - ten Son of the Fa - ther;  
 glo - ry to God, glo - ry in the high - est;  
 we too will thith - er bend our joy - ful foot - steps;  
 who would not love thee, lov - ing us so dear - ly?

come, let us a - dore him, O come, let us a - dore him, O  
 come, let us a - dore him, Christ, the Lord.

Yea, Lord, we greet thee,  
 born this happy morning;  
 Jesus, to thee be glory given;  
 Word of the Father,  
 now in flesh appearing;  
*Refrain*

## THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

+Blessed are you, holy and living One.

**You are our light and our salvation.**

## THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

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. Amen.

## THE HYMN OF PRAISE\*

### Angels We have Heard on High H-96

Glo - - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

Glo - - - - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

## THE SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us pray...Almighty God, you have given your only-begotten One to take our nature upon him, and to be born this day of a pure virgin: Grant that we, who have been born again and made your children by adoption and grace, may daily be renewed by your Holy Spirit; through our Savior Jesus Christ, to whom with you and the same Spirit be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## *The Liturgy of the Word*

*Please sit.*

### THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES

*Isaiah 52:7-10*

*Isaiah proclaims news of great joy: "Your God reigns!" Just as God saved the people from oppression in Egypt, God delivers Israel from exile. All the earth will witness the saving acts of God.\*\**

*The reading is introduced:*

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah.

How welcome upon the mountains  
are the feet of one who brings good news—  
who announces peace,  
and brings news of happy things,  
and proclaims deliverance,  
saying to Zion, "Your God reigns!"  
Listen! Those who keep watch raise a cry,  
together they shout for joy—  
for they see with their own eyes  
YHWH's restoration of Zion!

Break out together in song,  
O ruins of Jerusalem! For YHWH comforts the people,  
and redeems Jerusalem.

YHWH bares a holy arm  
in the sight of all the nations;  
all the ends of the earth will behold  
the salvation of our God!

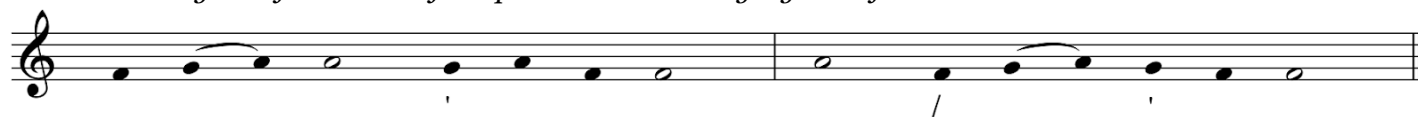
*A brief silence, then:*

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

**Thanks be to God.**

**PSALM 98**      *Cantate Domino*

*The cantor sings the first verse of the psalm and the congregation joins in on verse two.*



Sing a new song ' to God, \*  
who has done mar- / velous ' things.

**With your right hand, O God, and your ' holy arm, \*  
you have won for yourself / the victor -' y.**

**You have made known your ' victory; \*  
your righteousness have you openly shown in  
the / sight of the ' nations.**

**You remember your mercy and faithfulness  
to the ' house of Israel, \*  
and all the ends of the earth have seen the  
vic- / tory of our ' God.**

**Shout with joy to God, ' all you lands; \*  
lift up your voice, / rejoice, and ' sing.**

**Sing to God ' with the harp, \*  
with the harp and / the voice of ' song.**

**With trumpets and the sound ' of the horn, \*  
shout with joy before God / who reigns in ' majesty.**

**Let the sea make a noise and all that ' is in it, \*  
the lands and those / who dwell there- ' in.**

**Let the rivers ' clap their hands, \*  
and let the hills ring out with joy before God,  
who will come / to judge the ' earth.**

**God shall judge the world in ' righteousness \*  
and the / peoples with e- ' quity.**

**Glory to God, Source of All Being, Incarnate  
Word and ' Holy Spirit; \*  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be  
/ for ever. ' Amen.**

## THE CHRISTIAN SCRIPTURES *Hebrews 1:1-4*

*This letter opens with a lofty declaration of Jesus' preeminent status as the Only Begotten through whom God created the world and through whom our sins are cleansed. God speaks to us now through the Only Begotten, who is exalted even above the angels.\*\**

*The reading is introduced.*

A reading from the letter to the Hebrews.

In times past, God spoke in fragmentary and varied ways to our ancestors through the prophets; in these final days, God has spoken to us through the Only Begotten, who has been made heir of all things and through whom the universe was first created. Christ is the reflection of God's glory, the exact representation of God's being; all things are sustained by God's powerful Word. Having cleansed us from our sins, Jesus Christ sat down at the right hand of the Glory of heaven—as far superior to the angels as the name Christ has inherited is superior to theirs.

*A brief silence, then:*

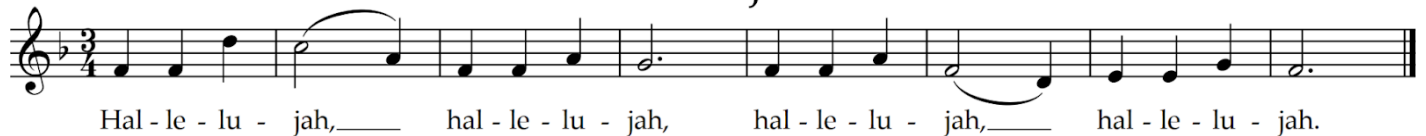
Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Please stand in body or spirit.*

**THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION (9:30)\***

### Hallelujah



*Cantor: A holy day has dawned on us. Come, you nations, and adore the Lord. For today a great Light has come upon the earth.\*\**

## THE HOLY GOSPEL *John 1:1-14*

*The prologue to the Gospel of John describes Jesus as the Word of God made flesh, the One who reveals God to be "full of grace and truth."\*\*\**

*The Holy Gospel is introduced.*

The Holy Gospel of Our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John.

**Glory to you, O Christ.**

In the Beginning  
there was the Word;  
the Word was in God's presence,  
and the Word was God.

The Word was present to God  
from the beginning.

Through the Word  
all things came into being,  
and apart from the Word  
nothing came into being

that has come into being.

In the Word was life,  
and that life was humanity's light—  
a Light that shines in the darkness,  
a Light that the darkness has never overtaken.

Then came one named John, sent as an envoy from God, who came as a witness to testify about the Light, so that through his testimony everyone might believe. He himself wasn't the Light; he only came to testify about the Light—the true Light that illumines all humankind.

The Word was coming into the world—  
was in the world—  
and though the world  
was made through the Word, the world didn't recognize it.

Though the Word came to its own realm,  
the Word's own people didn't accept it.

Yet any who did accept the Word,  
who believed in that Name,  
were empowered to become children of God—

children born not of natural descent,  
nor urge of flesh  
nor human will—  
but born of God.

And the Word became flesh  
and stayed for a little while among us;  
we saw the Word's glory—  
the favor and position a parent gives an only child—  
filled with grace,  
filled with truth.

*A brief silence, then:*

The Gospel of Christ.

**Praise to you, O Christ.**

**THE HOMILY**      Ms. Patti Walter

*Please stand in body or spirit.*

**THE NICENE CREED**

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

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the Beloved One of God,  
eternally begotten of the Creator,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,**

**begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Creator.  
Through Christ all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation  
Christ came down from heaven:  
and by the power of the Holy Spirit,  
was incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and became one in Being with us.  
For our sake, Jesus was crucified under Pontius Pilate,  
suffered death, and was buried.  
On the third day Jesus rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures,  
ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Creator.  
Christ will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
whose realm will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Giver and Sustainer of life,  
who proceeds from the Creator.  
With the Creator and the Beloved One they are worshiped and  
glorified.  
They have spoken through the Prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for +the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

### **THE CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS\*\***

Trusting in the goodness and lovingkindness of God, let us confess our sin.

*Silence for reflection.*

God of life,  
**you promise good news of great joy for all people, and call us to be messengers of your peace.  
We confess that too often we hoard our joy, our resources, and our security. We nurture  
conflicts and build barriers. We neglect the needs of our neighbors and ignore the groaning of  
creation. Have mercy on us. Where we are self-centered, open our hearts. Where we are  
reluctant, give us courage. Where we are cynical, restore our trust. Renew us with your grace  
and give us again the hope of eternal life in you. Amen.**

Almighty God have mercy on you, +forgive you all your sins through the grace of 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 Christ Child be always with you.  
**And also with you.**

*All share a greeting of peace.*

# The Liturgy of the Meal

## THE OFFERTORY

### The Offertory Sentence

*Please sit.*

### The Presentation of the Bread and Wine

*Please stand in body or spirit.*

### The Presentation of the Gifts

### The Offertory Hymn (9:30)\*

## What Child Is This #115

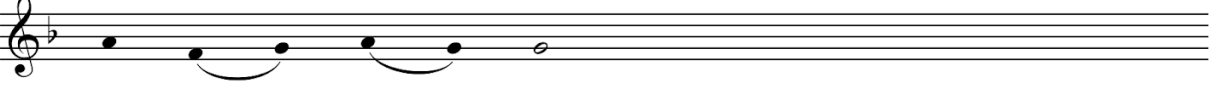
So bring him in - cense, gold, and myrrh, come, peas - ant, king, to own him; the  
King of kings sal - va - tion brings, let lov - ing hearts en - throne him.  
This, this is Christ the King, whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;  
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Ma - ry.

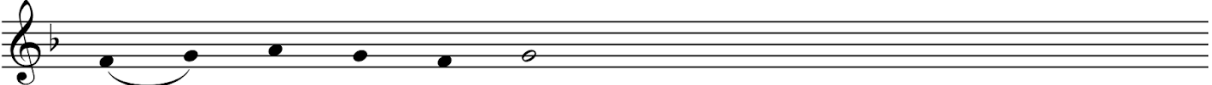


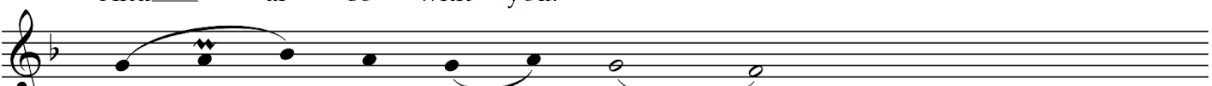
## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

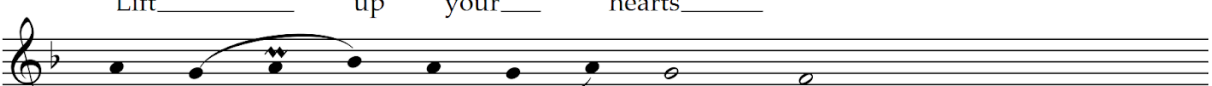
*The Prayers of the People are included in the Eucharistic Prayer. It is our custom to light candles for those who are sick or distressed and to remember those who have died. The prayer stations are on either side of the Altar.*


### The Preface and Proper Preface

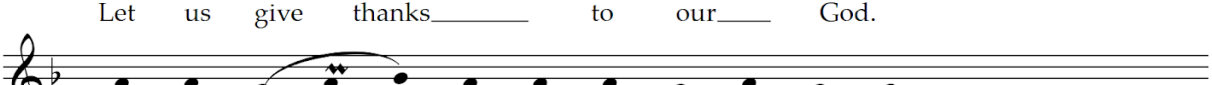
Celebrant   
God be with you.

People   
And also with you.

Celebrant   
Lift up your hearts

People   
We lift them to God.

Celebrant   
Let us give thanks to our God.

People   
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

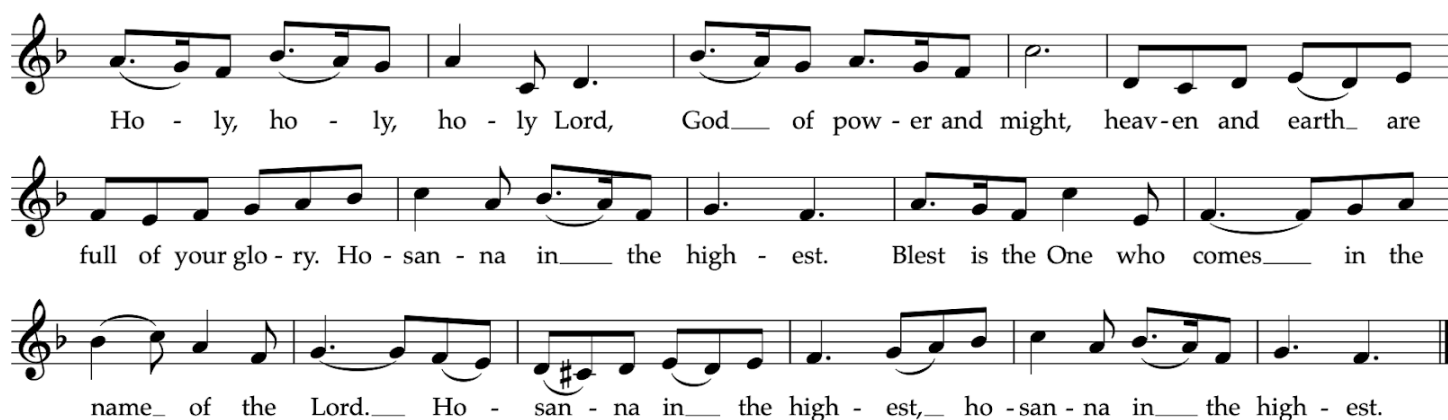
#### *The Celebrant continues*

It is truly right to glorify you, Holy One, and to give you thanks; for you alone are God, living and true, dwelling in light inaccessible from before time and for ever.

Fountain of life and source of all goodness, you made all things and fill them with your blessing; you created them to rejoice in the splendor of your radiance.

Countless throngs of angels stand before you to serve you night and day; and, beholding the glory of your presence, they offer you unceasing praise. Joining with them, and giving voice to every creature under heaven, we acclaim you, and glorify your Name, as we sing:

## Holy, Holy, Holy ELW-193



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might, heav - en and earth are  
full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Blest is the One who comes in the  
name of the Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

### *The Celebrant continues*

We acclaim you, holy God, glorious in power. Your mighty works reveal your wisdom and love. You formed us in your own image, giving the whole world into our care, so that, in obedience to you, our Creator, we might rule and serve all your creatures. When our disobedience took us far from you, you did not abandon us to the power of death. In your mercy you came to our help, so that in seeking you we might find you. Again and again you called us into covenant with you, and through the prophets you taught us to hope for salvation.

Holy One, you loved the world so much that in the fullness of time you sent your only-begotten One to be our Savior. Incarnate by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, Jesus lived as one of us, yet without sin. To the poor he proclaimed the good news of salvation; to prisoners, freedom; to the sorrowful, joy. To fulfill your purpose Jesus gave himself up to death; and, rising from the grave, destroyed death, and made the whole creation new.

And, that we might live no longer for ourselves, but for Christ who died and rose for us, you sent the Holy Spirit, your own first gift for those who believe, to complete your work in the world, and to bring to fulfillment the sanctification of all.

When the hour had come for Jesus to be glorified by you, his heavenly Abba, having loved his own who were in the world, he loved them to the end; at supper with them Jesus 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 Jesus 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."

Holy One, we now celebrate this memorial of our redemption. Recalling Christ's death and descent among the dead, proclaiming Christ's resurrection and ascension to your right hand, awaiting Christ's coming in glory; and offering to you, from the gifts you have given us, this bread and this cup, we praise you and we bless you.

### *Celebrant and People*

**We praise you, we bless you,  
we give thanks to you,  
and we pray to you, O Most High God.**

*The Celebrant continues*

God our Creator, we pray that in your goodness and mercy your Holy Spirit may descend upon us, and upon these gifts, sanctifying them and showing them to be holy gifts for your holy people, the bread of life and the cup of salvation, the Body and Blood of your Beloved One Jesus Christ.

Grant that all who share this bread and cup may become one body and one spirit, a living sacrifice in Christ, to the praise of your Name.

Remember, O God, your one, holy, catholic, and apostolic Church, redeemed by the blood of your Christ. Reveal its unity, guard its faith, and preserve it in peace.

Remember Michael, our Presiding Bishop, Kym, our own Bishop, and all who minister in your Church.

Remember all who are in any need, especially Jim, Claire, Barbie, Kathy, Sarah and family, Dominique and family, the Holbrook family, Katherine and David, Carol, the people of Ukraine, the Israeli and Palestinian people, those who struggle with conflict, natural and human disaster, and those we name aloud or in silence. *(Pause)*

Remember all who have died in the peace of Christ, especially Alicia, Heidi, and those we name aloud or in silence. *(Pause)*

And grant that we may find our inheritance with the blessed Virgin Mary, with matriarchs, patriarchs, prophets, apostles, and martyrs, with blessed Joseph, blessed John the Baptist, blessed Barnabas, and all the saints who have found favor with you in ages past. We praise you in union with them and give you glory through Jesus Christ our Savior.

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, all honor and glory are yours, Almighty God, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

**The Lord's Prayer\***

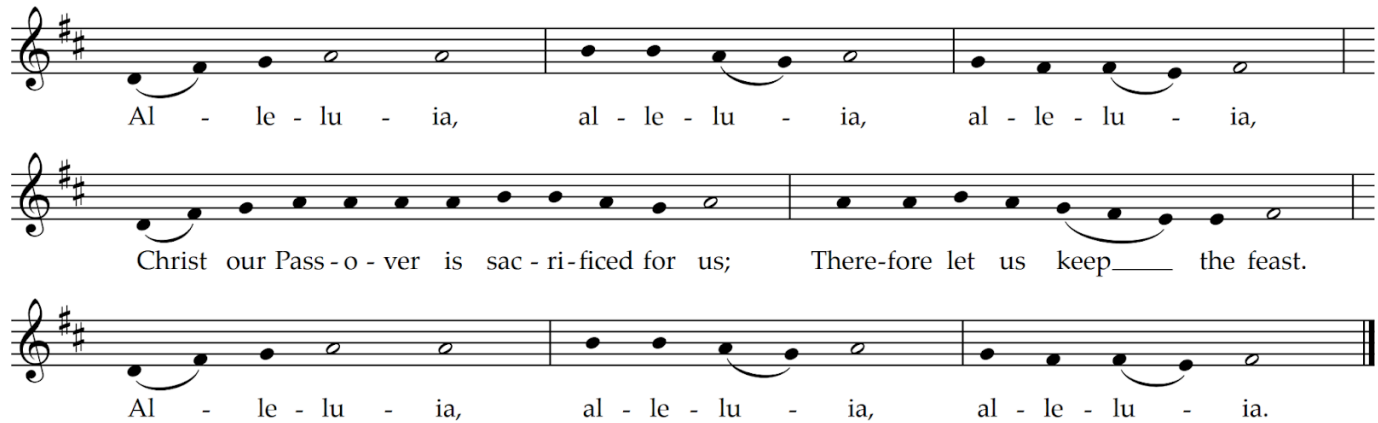
*It is our custom to hold hands during The Lord's Prayer.*

As Jesus has taught us, we pray those words that bind us together:

Our Fa-ther in hea ven, hal-lowed be your Name, your king-dom come, your will be done,  
on earth as in hea-ven. Give us to-day our dai-ly bread. For-give us our sins  
as we for-give those who sin a-gainst us. Save us from the time of tri-al,  
and de-liv-er us from e-vil. For the king-dom, the power, and the glo-ry are yours,  
now and for-ev-er. A-men.

## The Breaking of the Bread and Fraction Anthem\*

### Fraction Anthem: Christ our Passover



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia,  
Christ our Pass - o - ver is sac - ri - ficed for us; There - fore let us keep the feast.  
Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

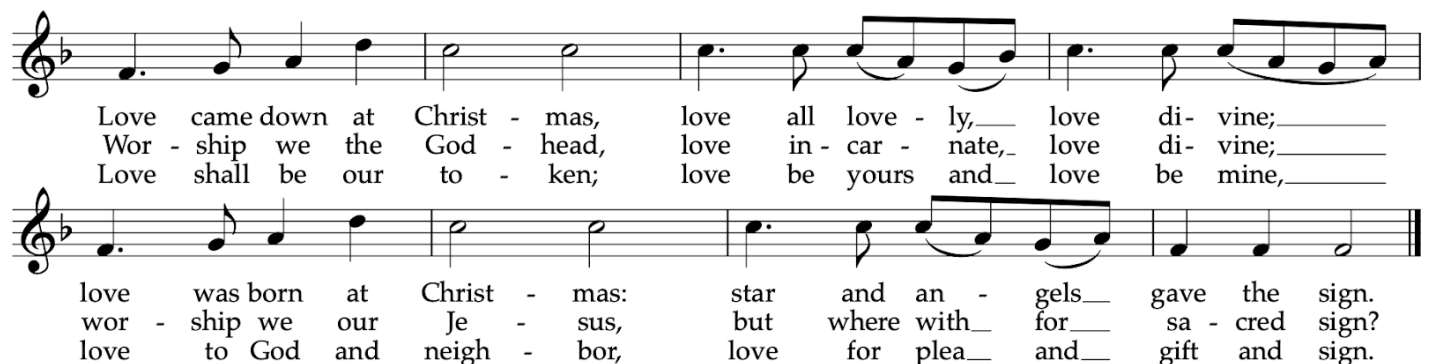
### The Invitation to Communion\*\*

Glory to God in the highest! Come to the Table of peace.

*Please sit. Jesus welcomed everyone to his table, and so we at St. Barnabas welcome everyone to this table. Gather around the Altar as you are directed. You may stand or kneel as is your custom. The Celebrant will place the gluten-free bread into your hand. You have two options to receive the wine. A Chalice Bearer will offer the Common Cup from which you may drink, or you may dip the bread in the wine when a second chalice comes in turn. You may also choose not to partake of the Cup. When you have received the Sacrament, please return to your seat. If you or your children prefer only to receive a blessing, please indicate this by crossing your hands over your chest.*

### The Hymn During Communion\*

#### Love Came Down at Christmas H-84



Love came down at Christ - mas, love all love - ly, love di - vine;  
Wor - ship we the God - head, love in - car - nate, love di - vine;  
Love shall be our to - ken; love be yours and love be mine,  
love was born at Christ - mas: star and an - gels gave the sign.  
wor - ship we our Je - sus, but where with for sa - cred sign?  
love to God and neigh - bor, love for plea and gift and sign.

*Please stand in body or spirit.*

### THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION\*\*

Let us pray...God our Redeemer,

**you have fed us at this Table with the gifts of grace, truth, and life. As you have gathered us in joy, send us forth as messengers of your peace. Make us shine with the Good News of your glory, born to us in Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.**

# The Liturgy of Sending

Please sit or kneel.

## THE BLESSING

May Christ, who by his Incarnation gathered into one things earthly and heavenly, fill you with joy and peace; and the blessing of +the most holy, glorious, and undivided Trinity, one God, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

## THE SENDING HYMN

### Good Christian Friends, Rejoice H-107

Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;  
Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;  
Good Chris-tian friends, re - joice with heart and soul and voice;

give ye heed to what we say: Je - sus Christ is born to - day;  
now ye hear of end - less bliss; Je - sus Christ was born for this!  
now ye need not fear the grave: Je - sus Christ was born to save!

ox and ass be - fore him bow, and he is in the man - ger now.  
He hath o - pened hea - ven's door, and we are blest for ev - er - more.  
Calls you one and calls you all to gain his ev - er - last - ing hall.

Christ is born to - day! Christ is born to - day!  
Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!  
Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

## THE DISMISSAL\*\*

Christ the Savior is born! Go in peace. Proclaim the Good News. Alleluia! Alleluia!

**Thanks be to God. Alleluia! Alleluia!**

## THE POSTLUDE

*In Dulci Jubilo* J. S. Bach

\*Hymns reprinted under One License #A-729701.

\*\*Liturgical pieces are from *Sundays and Seasons: Year B 2024*, Augsburg Fortress, Publishers, Minneapolis.