

The Ordination of a Priest



Meredith Joy Rogers

December 19, 2025

6:00pm



Art is a print of the Rev. Pauli Murray by Lauren Plum, 2020.

Preface To
THE ORDINATION RITES
From the 1979 Book of Common Prayer

The Holy Scriptures and ancient Christian writers make it clear that from the apostles' time, there have been different ministries within the Church. Since the time of the New Testament, three distinct orders of ordained ministers have been characteristic of Christ's holy catholic Church. First, there is the order of bishops who carry on the apostolic work of leading, supervising, and uniting the Church. Secondly, associated with them are the presbyters, or ordained elders, in subsequent times generally known as priests. Together with the bishops, priests take part in the governance of the Church, in the carrying out of its missionary and pastoral work, and in the preaching of the Word of God and administering his holy Sacraments. Thirdly, there are deacons who assist bishops and priests in all of this work. It is also a special responsibility of deacons to minister in Christ's name to the poor, the sick, the suffering, and the helpless.

The persons who are chosen and recognized by the Church as being called by God to the ordained ministry are admitted to these sacred orders by solemn prayer and the laying on of episcopal hands. The intention and purpose of this Church maintain and continue these three orders, and these services of ordination and consecration are appointed for this purpose. No one is allowed to exercise the offices of bishop, priest, or deacon in this Church unless they are so ordained or have already received such ordination with the laying on of hands by bishops who are themselves duly qualified to confer Holy Orders.

It is also recognized and affirmed that the threefold ministry is not the exclusive property of this portion of Christ's catholic Church, but is a gift from God for the nurture of his people and the proclamation of his Gospel everywhere. Accordingly, the manner of ordaining in this Church is to be such as has been, and is, most generally recognized by Christian people as suitable for the conferring of the sacred orders of bishop, priest, and deacon.

THE PRELUDE

Chorale preludes on "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"

Johannes Brahms, Albert Thate, et al.

The Blessing of Aaron

Arr. Walter Rodby

Quintet

The Liturgy of Gathering

As the bell is rung, please rise in body or spirit.

THE GATHERING HYMN

How Great Thou Art LEVAS II-60



O Lord my God, when I in awe-some won-der con-sid-er
When through the woods and for-est glades I wan-der, I hear the
But when I think that God, his Son not spar-ing, sent him to
When Christ shall come, with shout of ac-cla-ma-tion, and take me
all the works thy hand hath made, I see the stars, I hear the might-y
birds sing sweet-ly in the trees; when I look down from loft-y moun-tain
die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross my bur-den glad-ly
home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in hum-ble ad-o- -
thun-der, thy pow'r through-out the u-ni-verse dis-played; Then sings my
gran-deur and hear the brook and feel the gen-tle breeze;
bear-ing he bled and died to take a-way my sin;
ra-tion and there pro-claim, "My God, how great thou art!"
soul, my Sav-ior God to thee, how great thou art! How great thou art! Then sings my
soul, my Sav-ior God to thee, how great thou art! How great thou art!

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

Blessed be God: most holy, glorious, and undivided Trinity

And blessed be God's reign, now and for ever. Amen.

THE COLLECT FOR PURITY

Let us pray,

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 Bishop and the people sit.

THE PRESENTATION

*A Priest and a Lay Person and additional presenters, standing before the bishop,
present the ordinand, saying*

David, Bishop in the Church of God, on behalf of the clergy and people of the Diocese of West Texas, we present to you Meredith Joy Rogers to be ordained a priest in Christ's holy catholic Church.

Bishop

Has she been selected in accordance with the canons of this Church? And do you believe her manner of life to be suitable to the exercise of this ministry?

Presenters

We certify to you that she has satisfied the requirements of the canons, and we believe her to be qualified for this order.

The Bishop says to the ordinand

Will you be loyal to the doctrine, discipline, and worship of Christ as this Church has received them? And will you, in accordance with the canons of this Church, obey your bishop and other ministers who may have authority over you and your work?

Answer

I am willing and ready to do so; and I solemnly declare that I do believe the Holy Scriptures of the Old and New Testaments to be the Word of God, and to contain all things necessary to salvation; and I do solemnly engage to conform to the doctrine, discipline, and worship of The Episcopal Church.

The Ordinand then signs the above Declaration in the sight of all present.

All stand in body or spirit. The Bishop says to the people.

Dear friends in Christ, you know the importance of this ministry, and the weight of your responsibility in presenting Meredith Joy Rogers for ordination to the sacred priesthood. Therefore if any of you know any impediment or crime because of which we should not proceed, come forward now, and make it known.

If no objection is made, the Bishop continues

Is it your will that Meredith be ordained a priest?

The people respond in a loud voice.

People **It is.**

Bishop Will you uphold her in this ministry?

People **We will.**
Bishop In peace let us pray to the Lord.

All kneel as they are able.

THE LITANY FOR ORDINATIONS

Robert Rogers, Kim Thompson, Steve Rogers

God the Father,
Have mercy on us.

God the Son,
Have mercy on us.

God the Holy Spirit,
Have mercy on us.

Holy Trinity, one God,
Have mercy on us.

We pray to you, Lord Christ.
Lord, hear our prayer.

For the holy Church of God, that it may be filled with truth and love, and be found without fault at the Day of your Coming, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, hear our prayer.

For all members of your Church in their vocation and ministry, that they may serve you in a true and godly life, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, hear our prayer.

For Sean, our Presiding Bishop, and for all bishops, priests, and deacons, that they may be filled with your love, may hunger for truth, and may thirst after righteousness, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, hear our prayer.

For Meredith, chosen priest in your Church, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, hear our prayer.

That she may faithfully fulfill the duties of this ministry, build up your Church, and glorify your Name, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, hear our prayer.

That by the indwelling of the Holy Spirit she may be sustained and encouraged to persevere to the end, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, hear our prayer.

For her family that they may be adorned with all Christian virtues, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, hear our prayer.

For all who fear God and believe in you, Lord Christ, that our divisions may cease and that all may be one as you and the Father are one, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, hear our prayer.

For the mission of the Church, that in faithful witness it may preach the Gospel to the ends of the earth, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, hear our prayer.

For the peace of the world, that a spirit of respect and forbearance may grow among nations and peoples, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, hear our prayer.

For those in positions of public trust that they may serve justice and promote the dignity and freedom of every person, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, hear our prayer.

For a blessing upon all human labor, and for the right use of the riches of creation, that the world may be freed from poverty, famine, and disaster, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, hear our prayer.

For the poor, the persecuted, the sick, and all who suffer; for refugees, prisoners, and all who are in danger; that they may be relieved and protected, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, hear our prayer.

For all who have died in the communion of your Church, especially Gerald, Babs, Vernon, Jackie, Steve, Tom, Beverly, Keith, Rachel, Jerry, Don, Joyce, Mindy, Andrea, and those whose faith is known to you alone, that, with all the saints, they may have rest in that place where there is no pain or grief, but life eternal, we pray to you, O Lord.
Lord, hear our prayer.

Rejoicing in the fellowship of blessed Barnabas, blessed Thomas and all the saints, let us commend ourselves, and one another, and all our life to Christ our God.
To you, O Lord our God.

Lord, have mercy.
Christ, have mercy.
Lord, have mercy.

THE COLLECTS OF THE DAY

The Bishop stands and says.

God be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray.

Everliving God, who strengthened your apostle Thomas with firm and certain faith in your Son's resurrection: Grant us so perfectly and without doubt to believe in Jesus Christ, our Lord and our God, that our faith may never be found wanting in your sight; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

O God of unchangeable power and eternal light: Look favorably on your whole Church, that wonderful and sacred mystery; by the effectual working of your providence, carry out in tranquillity the plan of salvation; let the whole world see and know that things which were cast down are being raised up, and things which had grown old are being made new, and that all things are being brought to their perfection by him through whom all things were made, your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, one God, for ever and ever. **Amen.**

The Liturgy of the Word

THE HEBREW SCRIPTURES

Isaiah 6:1-8

A reading from the book of the prophet Isaiah

Katie Young

In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Lord sitting on a throne, high and lofty, and the hem of his robe filled the temple. Seraphs were in attendance above him; each had six wings: with two they covered their faces, and with two they covered their feet, and with two they flew. And one called to another and said,

“Holy, holy, holy is the Lord of hosts;
the whole earth is full of his glory.”

The pivots on the thresholds shook at the voices of those who called, and the house filled with smoke. And I said, “Woe is me! I am lost, for I am a man of unclean lips, and I live among a people of unclean lips, yet my eyes have seen the King, the Lord of hosts!”

Then one of the seraphs flew to me, holding a live coal that had been taken from the altar with a pair of tongs. The seraph touched my mouth with it and said, “Now that this has touched your lips, your guilt has departed and your sin is blotted out.” Then I heard the voice of the Lord saying, “Whom shall I send, and who will go for us?” And I said, “Here am I; send me!”

A brief silence, then:

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

Thanks be to God.

Psalm 126

When the LORD restored the fortunes of Zion, *
then were we like those who dream.

**Then was our mouth filled with laughter, *
and our tongue with shouts of joy.**

Then they said among the nations, *

"The LORD has done great things for them."

**The LORD has done great things for us, *
and we are glad indeed.**

Restore our fortunes, O LORD, *

like the watercourses of the Negev.

**Those who sowed with tears *
will reap with songs of joy.**

Those who go out weeping, carrying the seed, *

will come again with joy, shouldering their sheaves.

In Convertendo

Shelagh Casey Brown

THE CHRISTIAN SCRIPTURES

A reading from the letter of Paul to the Philippians

Philippians 4:4-9

Karen Rogers

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Finally, brothers and sisters, whatever is true, whatever is honorable, whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing, whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things. As for the things that you have learned and received and heard and noticed in me, do them, and the God of peace will be with you.

A brief silence, then:

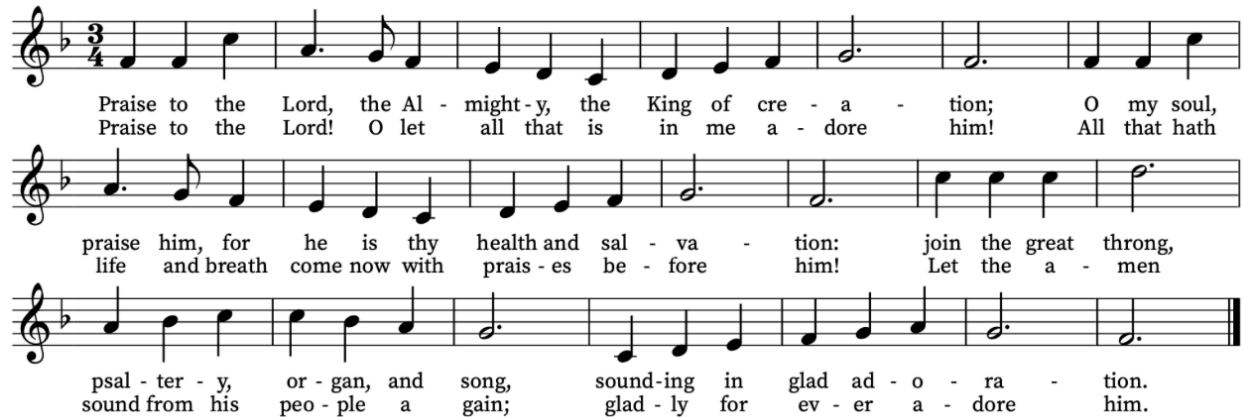
Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.

Thanks be to God.

THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION

Please stand in body or spirit.

Praise to the Lord H-390



Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre - a - tion; O my soul,
Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me a - dore him! All that hath
praise him, for he is thy health and sal - va - tion: join the great throng,
life and breath come now with prais - es be - fore him! Let the a - men
psal - ter - y, or - gan, and song, sound - ing in glad ad - o - ra - tion.
sound from his peo - ple a gain; glad - ly for ev - er a - dore him.

THE HOLY GOSPEL

John 20:24-29

The Rev. Nancey Johnson-Bookstein

Deacon The Holy Gospel of Our Savior Jesus Christ according to John.

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

Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with the other disciples when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe."

Deacon The Gospel of our Savior.

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

Please be seated.

THE SERMON

The Rev. Elizabeth Knowlton

THE NICENE CREED

Please rise in body or spirit.

**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,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**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,
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who 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.**

THE EXAMINATION

All are seated except the ordinand, who stands before the Bishop.

The Bishop addresses the ordinand as follows

My sister, the Church is the family of God, the body of Christ, and the temple of the Holy Spirit.
All baptized people are called to make Christ known as Savior and Lord, and to share in the

renewing of his world. Now you are called to work as pastor, priest, and teacher, together with your bishop and fellow presbyters, and to take your share in the councils of the Church.

As a priest, it will be your task to proclaim by word and deed the Gospel of Jesus Christ, and to fashion your life in accordance with its precepts. You are to love and serve the people among whom you work, caring alike for young and old, strong and weak, rich and poor. You are to preach, to declare God's forgiveness to penitent sinners, to pronounce God's blessing, to share in the administration of Holy Baptism and in the celebration of the mysteries of Christ's Body and Blood, and to perform the other ministrations entrusted to you.

In all that you do, you are to nourish Christ's people from the riches of his grace, and strengthen them to glorify God in this life and in the life to come.

My sister, do you believe that you are truly called by God and his Church to this priesthood?

Answer I believe I am so called.

Bishop Do you now in the presence of the Church commit yourself to this trust and responsibility?

Answer I do.

Bishop Will you respect and be guided by the pastoral direction and leadership of your bishop?

Answer I will.

Bishop Will you be diligent in the reading and study of the Holy Scriptures, and in seeking the knowledge of such things as may make you a stronger and more able minister of Christ?

Answer I will.

Bishop Will you endeavor so to minister the Word of God and the sacraments of the New Covenant, that the reconciling love of Christ may be known and received?

Answer I will.

Bishop Will you undertake to be a faithful pastor to all whom you are called to serve, laboring together with them and with your fellow ministers to build up the family of God?

Answer I will.

Bishop Will you do your best to pattern your life and that of your household in accordance with the teachings of Christ, so that you may be a wholesome example to your people?

Answer I will.

Bishop Will you persevere in prayer, both in public and in private, asking God's grace, both for yourself and for others, offering all your labors to God, through the mediation of Jesus Christ, and in the sanctification of the Holy Spirit?

Answer I will.

Bishop May the Lord who has given you the will to do these things give you the grace and power to perform them.

Answer Amen.

All now stand except the ordinand, who kneels facing the Bishop.

The Consecration of the Priest

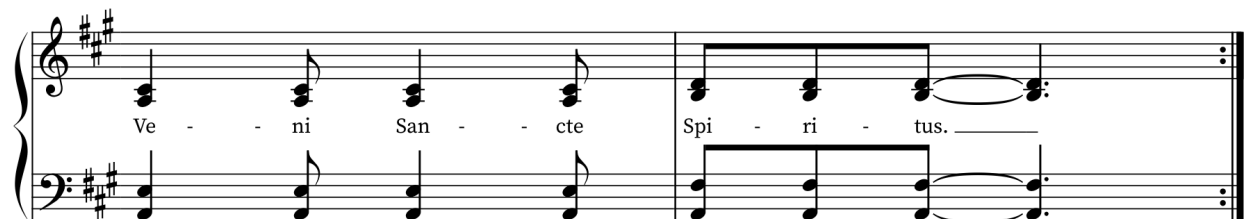
THE CONSECRATION HYMN

Veni Sancte Spiritus

Jacques Berthier

Choir and Michael Jordan, cantor

The people join the choir in singing the repeated chorus while the cantor sings the verses.



1. Come, Holy Spirit, from heaven shine forth with your glorious light.
2. Come, Father of the poor, come, generous Spirit, come, light of our hearts.
3. Come from the four winds, O Spirit, come breath of God; disperse the shadows over us, renew and strengthen your people.
4. Most kindly warming light! Enter the inmost depths of our hearts, for we are faithful to you. Without your presence we have nothing worthy, nothing pure.
5. You are only comforter, "Peace of the Soul". In the heat you shade us; in our labor you refresh us, and in trouble you are our strength.
6. Come, Holy Spirit, from heaven shine forth with your glorious light.

THE PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

A period of silent prayer follows, the people still standing.

The Bishop then says this Prayer of Consecration

God and Father of all, we praise you for your infinite love in calling us to be a holy people in the kingdom of your Son Jesus our Lord, who is the image of your eternal and invisible glory, the firstborn among many brethren, and the head of the Church. We thank you that by his death he has overcome death, and, having ascended into heaven, has poured his gifts abundantly upon your people, making some apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, to equip the saints for the work of ministry and the building up of his body.

Here the Bishop lays hands upon the head of the ordinand, the Priests who are present also laying on their hands. At the same time the Bishop prays

Therefore, Father, through Jesus Christ your Son, give your Holy Spirit to Meredith; fill her with grace and power, and make her a priest in your Church.

The Bishop continues

May she exalt you, O Lord, in the midst of your people; offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to you; boldly proclaim the gospel of salvation; and rightly administer the sacraments of the New Covenant. Make her a faithful pastor, a patient teacher, and a wise councilor. Grant that in all things he may serve without reproach, so that your people may be strengthened and your Name glorified in all the world. All this we ask through Jesus Christ our Lord, who with you and the Holy Spirit lives and reigns, one God, for ever and ever.

The People in a loud voice respond **Amen.**

The new priest is now vested according to the order of priests.

At the vesting with a stole, the Bishop says.

Receive this stole, the symbol of service to which you are called. Our Lord Jesus Christ, whose servant you are, support you with his grace, that you may always be a sign of the love and care which God has for all creation. In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

At the vesting with a chasuble, the Bishop says.

Receive this chasuble, the garment of humility. Our Lord Jesus Christ, who said, "My yoke is easy, and my burden is light," give you grace so to help others to bear the burdens of this life, that your ministry may be a sign to all people of the generosity and gentleness of the kingdom that is to come. In the Name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.**

The Bishop then gives a Bible to the newly ordained, saying

Receive this Bible as a sign of the authority given you to preach the Word of God and to administer his holy Sacraments. Do not forget the trust committed to you as a priest of the Church of God. **Amen.**

The Bishop greets the newly ordained.

THE PEACE

The new Priest then says to the congregation

The peace of Christ be always with you.

And also with you.

The Presbyters present greet the newly ordained; who then greets family members and others, as may be convenient. The Clergy and People greet one another.

Please be seated.

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS



The offering will be given in support of the Rector's discretionary fund at St. Barnabas Episcopal Parish. Your giving allows us to offer confidential support to those in need in the parish and the community. You can give by: scanning the QR Code here or by placing your gift in the offering plate as it comes by.

At the conclusion of the announcements, the Bishop continues with an offertory sentence.

The Liturgy of the Meal

THE OFFERTORY

The Presentation of the Bread and Wine

Offertory Anthem

Psalm 23

Bobby McFerrin

Choir

Please rise in body or spirit.

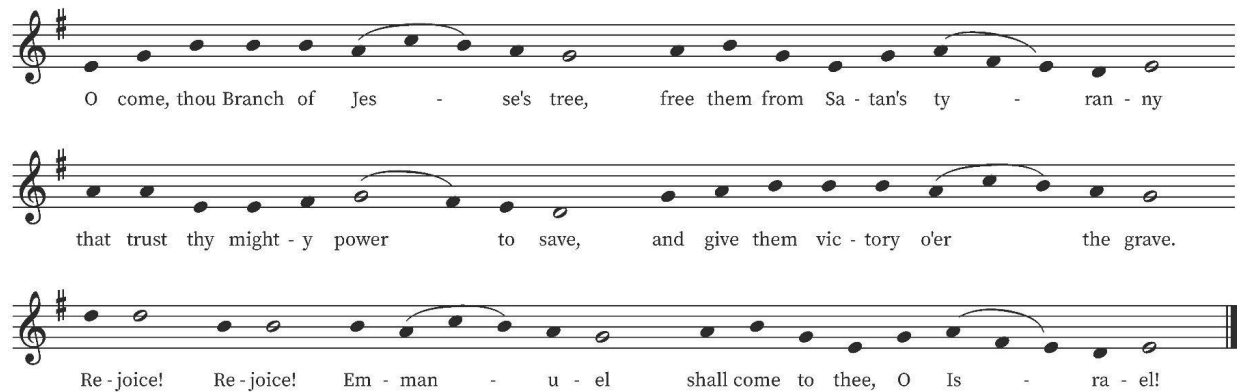
The Presentation of the Gifts

The Offertory Hymn

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

O Radix Jesse

H-56



THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Eucharistic Prayer B

God 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 him thanks and praise.

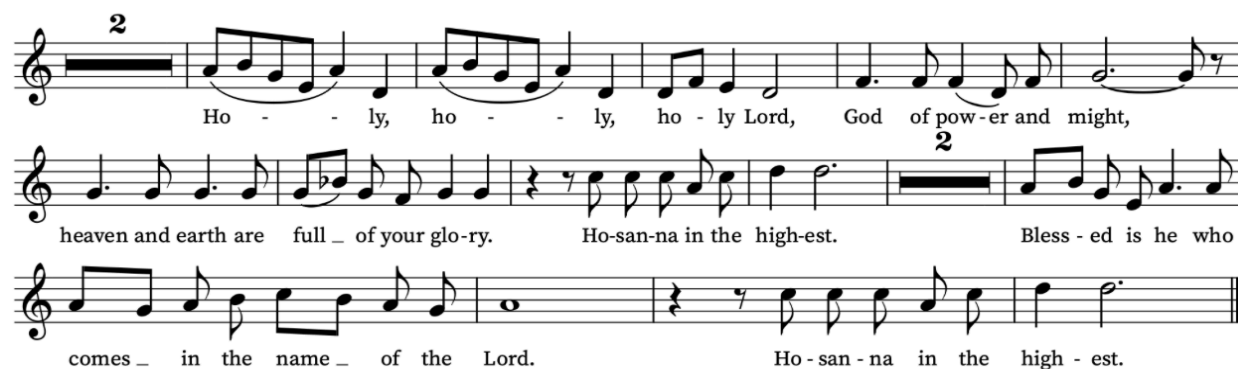
It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth.

Through the great shepherd of your flock, Jesus Christ our Lord; who after his resurrection sent forth the apostles to preach the Gospel and to teach all nations; and promised to be with them always, even to the end of the ages.

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, Holy Lord S-128



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 Jesus Christ, the Word made flesh. For in these last days you sent Jesus to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In Christ, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In Christ, 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 Savior 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 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."

Therefore, according to his command, O God,

Celebrant and People

**We remember Christ's death,
We proclaim Christ's resurrection,
We await Christ's coming in glory;**

The Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Savior 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 in the sacrifice of Jesus Christ, through whom we are acceptable to you, 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 Blessed Barnabas and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage

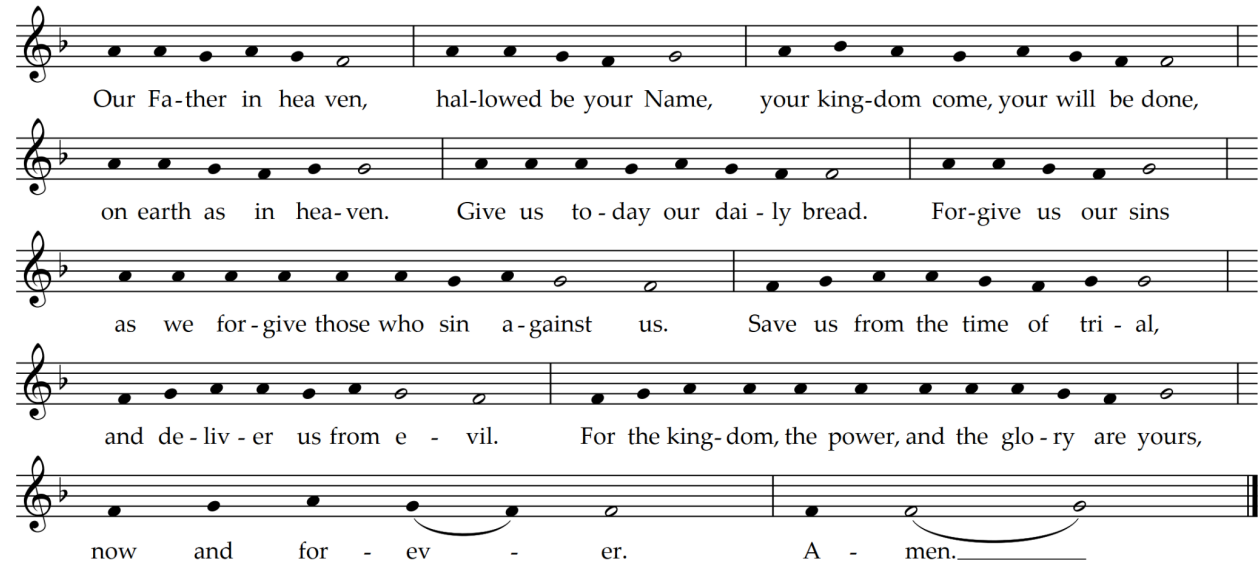
of your children; through Jesus Christ our Savior, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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

The Lord's Prayer

It is the custom at St. Barnabas to hold hands during The Lord's Prayer.

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



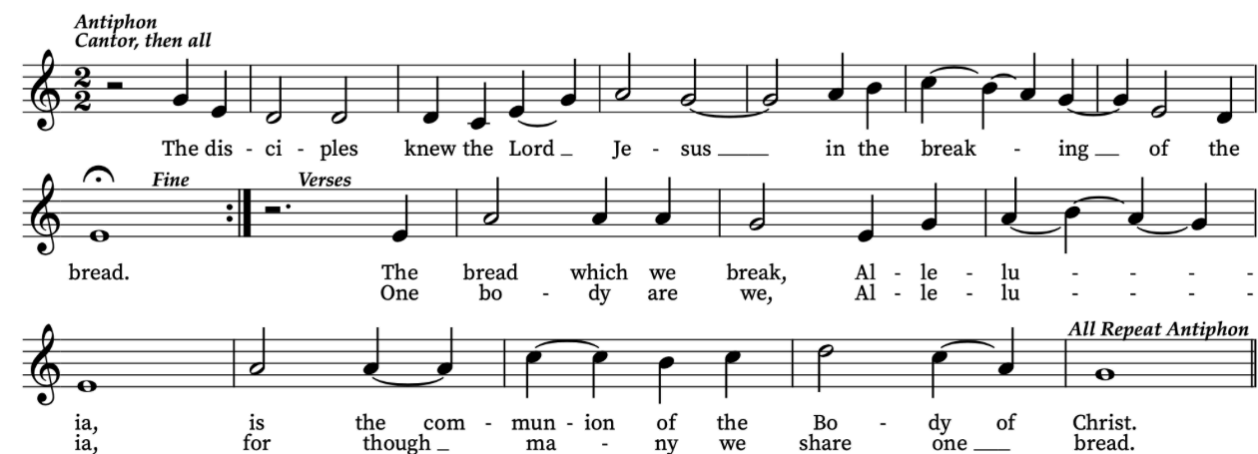
Our Fa-ther in hea ven, hal-lowed be your Name, your king-dom come, your will be done,
on earth as in hea-ven. Give us to-day our dai-ly bread. For-give us our sins
as we for-give those who sin a-against us. Save us from the time of tri-al,
and de-liv-er us from e-vil. For the king-dom, the power, and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

THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND FRACTION ANTHEM

Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;

Therefore let us keep the feast.

The Disciples Knew the Lord Jesus WLP-876



Antiphon
Cantor, then all
The dis-ci-ples knew the Lord Je-sus in the break-ing of the
Fine bread.
Verses
The bread which we break, Al-le-lu-
The One bo-dy we are, we, Al-le-lu-
All Repeat Antiphon
ia, is for the com-mun-ion of the Bo-dy of Christ.
ia, for though-ma-ni-we share one bread.

THE INVITATION TO COMMUNION

This is the table of God. As 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 by an usher. You may stand or kneel as is your custom. The Celebrant will place a wafer into your hand. Gluten free wafers are available upon request. 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 wafer 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.

COMMUNION MUSIC

Communion Anthem

Plowshare Prayer

Spencer LaJoye

Asher Vincent & Aaron Sefton

Dear blessed creator, dear mother,
dear savior
Dear father, dear brother, dear holy other
Dear sibling, dear baby,
dear patiently waiting
Dear sad & confused, dear stuck & abused

Dear end of your rope,
dear worn out & broke
Dear go it alone, dear running from home
Dear righteously angry, forsaken by family
Dear jaded & quiet, dear tough & defiant

Chorus:

I pray that I'm heard
And I pray that this works
I pray if a prayer has been used as a sword
Against you & your heart
Against you & your word
I pray that this prayer is a plowshare of sorts

That it might break you open
It might help you grow
I pray that your body gets all that it needs
And if you don't want healing
I just pray for peace
I pray that your burden gets lighter each day
I pray the mean voice
in your head goes away

I pray that you honor the grief as it comes
I pray you can feel all the life in your lungs
I pray that if you go all day being brave
That you can go home, go to bed
Feeling safe
I pray you're forgiven. I pray you forgive
I pray you set boundaries & openly live
I pray that you feel
you are worth never leaving
I pray that you know
I will always believe you

I pray that you're heard
And I pray that this works

Amen on behalf of the last & the least
On behalf of the anxious,
depressed & unseen
Amen for the workers, the hungry,
the houseless
Amen for the lonely & recently spouseless

Amen for the queers & their closeted peers
Amen for the bullied who hold in their tears
Amen for the mothers of little Black sons
Amen for the kids who
grow up scared of guns

Amen for the addicts, ashamed & hungover
 Amen for the calloused,
 the wisened, the sober
 Amen for ones who want life to be over
 Amen for the leaders
 who lose their composure

And amen for the parents
 who just lost their baby
 Amen for chronically ill & disabled
 Amen for the children down at the border
 Amen for the victims of our law & order

I pray that you're heard
 And I pray that this works

I pray if a prayer has been used as a sword
 Against you & your heart
 Against you & your word
 I pray that this prayer is a plowshare of sorts

Communion Hymns

I am the Bread of Life H-335



I am the bread of life; they who come to me shall not hun- ger; they who be-
 Bread that I will give is my Flesh for the life of the world, and they who
 less you eat of the Flesh of the Son of Man and
 I am the re - sur - rec - tion, I am the life. They who be-
 Lord we be - lieve that you are the Christ, the



lieve in me shall not thirst. No one can come to me un - less the Fa - ther
 eat of this bread, they shall live for ev - er, they shall live for
 drink of his blood, you shall not have life with - in you, you shall not have life with -
 lieve in me, e - ven if they die, they shall live for
 Son of God who has come in - to the

Refrain



draw them. And I will raise them up, and I will raise them up, and I will
 ev - er.
 in you.
 ev - er.
 world



raise them up on the last day.
 2.The day.
 3.Un -
 4.
 5.Yes,

Take My Life, and Let It Be H-707



Take my life, and let it be con - se - crat - ed, Lord, to thee;
 Take my voice, and let me sing al - ways, on - ly, for my King;

take my mo - ments and my days, let them flow in cease - less praise.
 take my in - tel - lect, and use ev - ery power as thou shalt choose.

Take my hands, and let them move at the im - pulse of thy love;
 Take my will, and make it thine; it shall be no long - er mine.

take my heart, it is thine own; it shall be thy roy - al throne.
 Take my - self, and I will be ev - er, on - ly, all for thee.

I Come with Joy to Meet my Lord H-304



I come with joy__ to meet my Lord, for - giv - en, loved, and free,____ in
 I come with Chris - tians far and near__ to find, as all__ are fed,____ the
 As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion ends.____ That
 And thus with joy__ we meet our Lord. His pres - ence, al - ways near,____ is
 To - geth - er met,____ to - geth - er bound, we'll go our dif - ferent ways,____ and

awe and won - der to re - call__ his life laid down for me.____
 new com - mu - ni - ty of love__ in Christ's com - mun - ion bread.____
 love that made__ us makes us one,____ and stran - gers now__ are friends.____
 in such friend - ship bet - ter known: we see and praise him here.____
 as his peo - ple in the world, we'll live and speak his praise.____

THE POSTCOMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the holy food of the Body and Blood of your Son, and for uniting us through him in the fellowship of your Holy Spirit. We thank you for raising up among us faithful servants for the ministry of your Word and Sacraments. We pray that Meredith may be to us an effective example in word and action, in love and patience, and in holiness of life. Grant that we, with her, may serve you now, and always rejoice in your glory; through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.

The Liturgy of Sending

THE BLESSING

The Bishop then asks the new priest to bless the people.

The new Priest says

Friends, our life on earth is short, and there isn't much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel with us. So be quick to love, make haste to be kind, and be assured that God is infinitely more concerned with our future than with our past and may the blessing of God, the Creator, the Redeemer, and the Sustainer, be among you, and remain with you always. **Amen.**

THE SENDING HYMN

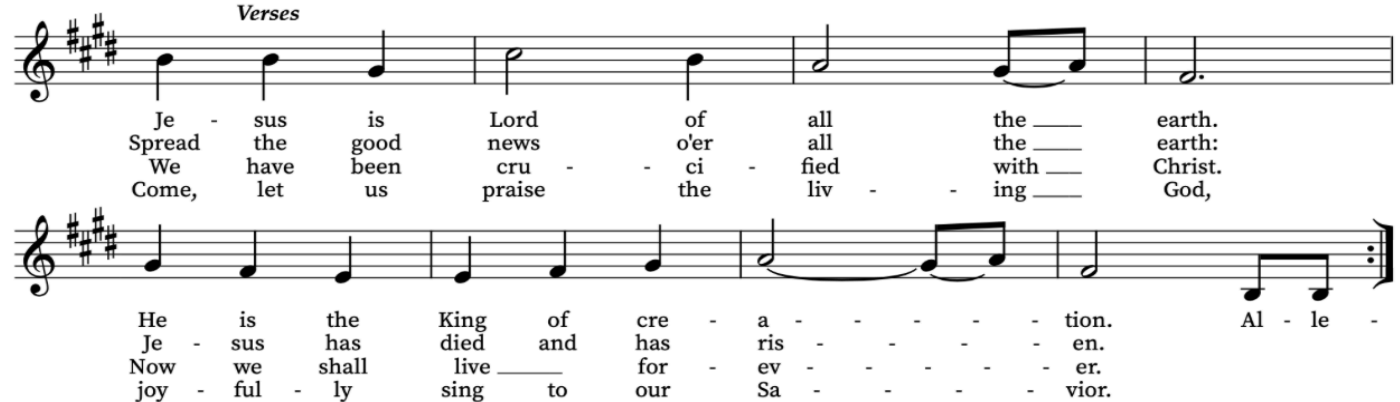
Jesus is Lord of All the Earth H-178

Refrain



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give _ thanks to the ri - sen Lord. Al - le -
lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia! Give _ praise to his ____ Name. *(end refrain)*

Verses



Je - sus is Lord of all the ____ earth.
Spread the good news o'er all the ____ earth:
We have been cru - ci - fied with ____ Christ.
Come, let us praise the liv - ing ____ God,
He is the King of cre - a - - - - tion. Al - le -
Je - sus has died and has ris - - - - en.
Now we shall live ____ for - ev - - - - er.
joy - ful - ly sing to our Sa - - - - vior.

THE DISMISSAL

A Deacon dismisses the people.

Let us go forth into the world, rejoicing in the power of the Spirit.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Toccata from *Symphony No. 5*

Charles-Marie Widor

All are invited to join us in a festive reception immediately following this liturgy hosted by the Community Life Committee. As you leave the sanctuary and Lukens Wing, turn down the hallway and walk directly into Brady Hall.

On Sunday, December 21 at 9:30am, Rev. Meredith will celebrate the Holy Eucharist for the first time at St. Barnabas Episcopal parish. All are invited to join as we give thanks for her ordination and the beginning of her priestly ministry.

WITH DEEP THANKS ON THE DAY OF MY ORDINATION

Dear Friends,

A special word of thanks goes to the Rt. Rev. David Read, Diocesan Bishop of the Diocese of West Texas, and to his wife Jacqui, for their presence and blessing to myself and my spouse. My heartfelt gratitude also goes to the Rt. Rev. Kym Lucas, Bishop of the Episcopal Diocese of Colorado, along with her staff and the clergy of Colorado, for warmly welcoming me as I have moved from West Texas into ministry here. I am equally grateful to the Rev. Elizabeth Knowlton, mentor, friend, and my sending Rector, for her faithful guidance and for preaching today. My thanks as well to all those who served in the liturgy. Your leadership and care helped make this service prayerful, beautiful, and hospitable.

My heartfelt thanks to the St. Barnabas staff, who helped make this celebration possible during an already busy season. Your dedication, flexibility, and good humor made this day not only feasible but joyful. I am also deeply grateful to the Vestry for their steady support, generous creativity, and partnership in shaping this moment in our life together.

To our Music Director, Organist, Choir, and all who offered their musical gifts, thank you for the beauty, care, and hard work you brought to this service. Your ministry lifts our spirits and deepens our worship. I am likewise grateful to the Worship and Arts Committee for thoughtfully shaping this liturgy with such intention and love.

Thank you to all who braved a cold winter's evening to be here, traveling from both near and far. Your presence was a true gift. And thank you to those who contributed to the Rector's Discretionary Fund. Your generosity directly supports those in need and strengthens our shared ministry of compassion.

I want to offer a special word of gratitude to all who have tended, cared, and discerned with me through these seventeen years of listening for and living into my call to the priesthood. I give thanks for my family, my mentors, and my friends, whose encouragement, wisdom, and steadfast love have carried me to this day. I especially give thanks for my spouse, Asher, who inspires me, cares for me, and loves me well. They make me laugh and are so very good to me.

Peace be with all y'all,

Meredith Rogers

SERVICE PARTICIPANTS

Celebrant:	The Rt. Rev. Dr. David G. Read, <i>XI Bishop of West Texas</i>
Preacher:	The Rev. Elizabeth Knowlton
Deacon:	The Rev. Nancey Johnson-Bookstein
Presenters:	The Rev. Samantha Smith, The Rev. Elizabeth Knowlton Ruth Smith, Jolene Whitney-Bruch, Jim Hayes, Caroline Corrigan, Nate Stone
Musicians:	Nichole Young, <i>Music Director, Cantor</i> Ronda Hilton, <i>Organist</i> St. Barnabas Choir Michael Jordan, <i>Cantor, Quintet</i> Asher Vincent, <i>Vocalist</i> Aaron Sefton, <i>Guitar</i> Walter Flor, <i>Quintet</i> Alex Flor, <i>Quintet</i> Stanley Siefer, <i>Quintet</i> Tom Potter, <i>Quintet</i>
Altar Guild:	Sis Flor
Server:	David Ford
Bishop's Chaplain:	The Rev. Bonnie Spencer
Litany for Ordination:	Robert Rogers, Steve Rogers, Kim Thompson
Lectors:	Shelagh Casey Brown, Karen Rogers, Katie Young
Vesting the Priest:	Asher Vincent, Steve Rogers, Karen Rogers
Oblationers:	The Rev. Cristopher Robinson, Rachel Draughn, Clark Draughn
Eucharistic Ministers:	The Rev. Dr. Cory Michael Irwin, The Rev. Deacon Sally Megeath, Jill Bednarek, David Ford, Patti Walter, Jolene Whitney-Bruch, Jody Will
Greeters:	Helen Barron, Brian Rolle
Ushers:	Jamie Henderson, Becky Sanders, Brent Sanders, Neil Stock
AV:	Nate Stone, Aaron Sefton