



ST. PETER'S CATHEDRAL
HELENA, MONTANA

THE RT. REV. MARTY STEBBINS, BISHOP
THE VERY REV. KENDRA WILDE, DEAN

THE HOLY EUCHARIST THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 7, 2025
9:00AM AND LIVESTREAMED

WELCOME

Thank you for being here today. Whether you've been worshipping at St. Peter's for years or it's your first time here, we hope you find richness in offering your prayers and praise with others in this holy space. Afterward, please join us downstairs for pancakes and all the trimmings (to benefit our Social Concerns ministries), and a time for conversation. Whoever you are, wherever you have been, wherever you hurt, whatever joys and concerns you bring today, you are welcome at Christ's table and here at St. Peter's Cathedral.

We draw our liturgy from a variety of approved resources. Please see endnotes for sources and permissions.

***The People's responses
are printed in boldface.***

*Please silence
electronic devices.*



MINISTERS SERVING TODAY

Presider: *The Very Rev. Kendra Wilde, Dean & Rector*

Organ: *John Goodwin*

Acolytes: *Peter Jaynes & William Jaynes*

Lectors: *Patty Dean & Maggie Stockwell*

Eucharistic Minister (EM): *Nick Jaynes*

Eucharistic Visitors (EV): *Chris Boyce & Robin Ericksen*

Ushers: *Chris Stockwell & Maggie Stockwell*

THE WORD OF GOD

THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

God is our refuge and strength,

A very present help in trouble.

Therefore we will not fear, though the earth be moved,

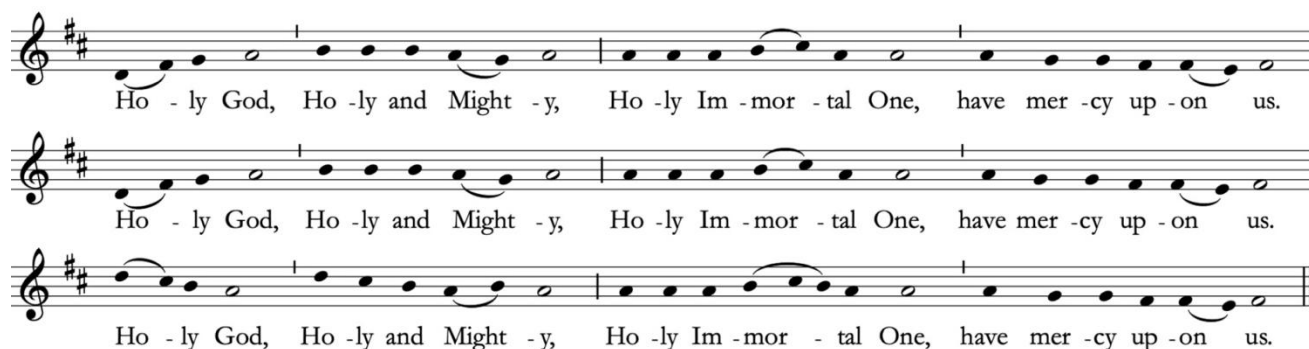
And though the mountains be toppled into the depths of the sea.

Blessed are you, holy and living One.

You come to your people and set them free.

HOLY GOD (Trisagion)

New Plainsong



THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.** Let us pray.

Merciful God, who sent your messengers the prophets to preach repentance and prepare the way for our salvation: Give us grace to heed their warnings and forsake our sins, that we may greet with joy the coming of Jesus Christ our Redeemer; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

THE OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 11:1-10

A shoot shall come out from the stump of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots. The spirit of the Lord shall rest on him, the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of counsel and might, the spirit of knowledge and the fear of the Lord. His delight shall be in the fear of the Lord. He shall not judge by what his eyes see, or decide by what his ears hear; but with righteousness he shall judge the poor, and decide with equity for the meek of the earth; he shall strike the earth with the rod of his mouth, and with the breath of his lips he shall kill the wicked. Righteousness shall be the belt around his waist, and faithfulness the belt around his loins.

The wolf shall live with the lamb, the leopard shall lie down with the kid, the calf and the lion and the fatling together, and a little child shall lead them. The cow and the bear shall graze, their young shall lie down together; and the lion shall eat straw like the ox. The nursing child shall play over the hole of the asp, and the weaned child shall put its hand on the adder's den. They will not hurt or destroy on all my holy mountain; for the earth will be full of the knowledge of the Lord as the waters cover the sea. On that day the root of Jesse shall stand as a signal to the peoples; the nations shall inquire of him, and his dwelling shall be glorious.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

THE RESPONSE: Psalm 72:1-7, 18-19

¹ Give the King your justice, O God, *
and your righteousness to the King's Son;

² **That he may rule your people righteously *
and the poor with justice;**

³ That the mountains may bring prosperity to the people, *
and the little hills bring righteousness.

⁴ **He shall defend the needy among the people; *
he shall rescue the poor and crush the oppressor.**

⁵ He shall live as long as the sun and moon endure, *
from one generation to another.

⁶ **He shall come down like rain upon the mown field, *
like showers that water the earth.**

⁷ In his time shall the righteous flourish; *
there shall be abundance of peace till the moon shall be no more.

¹⁸ **Blessed be the Lord God, the God of Israel, *
who alone does wondrous deeds!**

¹⁹ And blessed be his glorious Name for ever! *
and may all the earth be filled with his glory. Amen. Amen.

THE NEW TESTAMENT

Romans 15:4-13

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that

the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written, “Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles, and sing praises to your name”; and again he says, “Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people”; and again, “Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles, and let all the peoples praise him”; and again Isaiah says, “The root of Jesse shall come, the one who rises to rule the Gentiles; in him the Gentiles shall hope.”

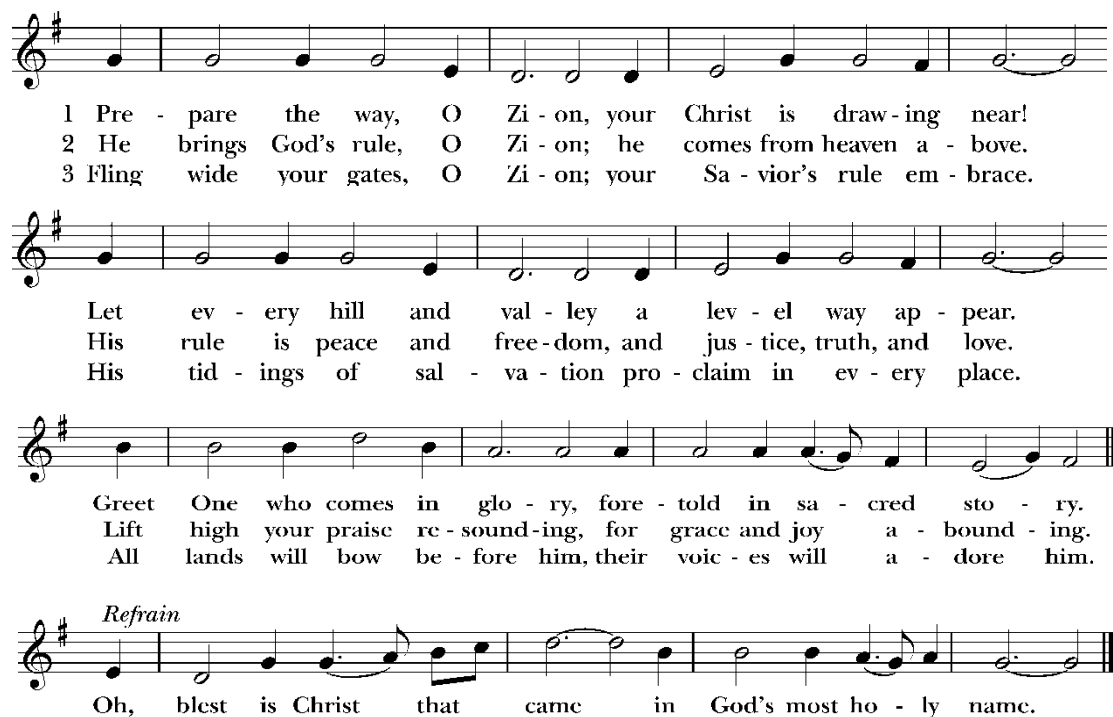
May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

HYMN AT THE SEQUENCE

Prepare the Way, O Zion

Tune: Bereden väg för Herran



1 Pre - pare the way, O Zi - on, your Christ is draw - ing near!
 2 He brings God's rule, O Zi - on; he comes from heaven a - bove.
 3 Fling wide your gates, O Zi - on; your Sa - vior's rule em - brace.

Let ev - ery hill and val - ley a lev - el way ap - pear.
 His rule is peace and free - dom, and jus - tice, truth, and love.
 His tid - ings of sal - va - tion pro - claim in ev - ery place.

Greet One who comes in glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry.
 Lift high your praise re - sound - ing, for grace and joy a - bound - ing.
 All lands will bow be - fore him, their voic - es will a - dore him.

Refrain
 Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most ho - ly name.

THE GOSPEL PROCLAMATION

Matthew 3:1-12

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew. **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said, “The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: ‘Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.’” Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our ancestor’; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. “I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

SERMON

The Very Rev. Kendra Wilde

NICENE CREED

BCP 358

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

In the course of the silence after each bidding, the people may offer prayers, either silently or aloud.

Leader

I ask your prayers for God’s church in the world, wherever love is made manifest; for Archbishop of Canterbury Sarah; Presiding Bishop Sean; Bishop Marty; for Dean Kendra; for this gathering; and for all ministers and people. Pray for the Church.

Silence

I ask your prayers for God's people throughout the world; for compassion and goodwill among nations; and for the well-being of all people. Pray for justice and peace.

Silence

I ask your prayers for those who suffer from poverty, illness, food insecurity, oppression, for those in prison, and for those who care for them. Pray for those in any need or trouble.

Silence

I ask your prayers for all who seek God, or a deeper knowledge of God. Pray that they may find and be found by God.

Silence

I ask your prayers for the departed [especially _____]. Pray for those who have died.

Silence

Members of the congregation may ask the prayers or the thanksgivings of those present

Praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honored. Pray that we may have grace to glorify Christ in our own day.

Silence

Presider

Hasten, O Father, the coming of your Kingdom; and grant that we your servants, who now live by faith, may with joy behold your son at his coming in glorious majesty; even Jesus Christ, our only Mediator and Advocate. **Amen.**

Prayer Requests

The Church: for the Togendowagan Society, Darcy and Dan, their Elders; and for St. Paul's, Fort Benton, Shirley Lenington, Senior Warden.

The Government: for Donald, our President; for Greg, our Governor; for Congress, especially Tim, Steve, Ryan and Troy. Also, for Kelly, Vickie, and Wilmot, our area mayors.

The Community: for the staff, volunteers, and beneficiaries of God's Love, Good Samaritan Ministries, Family Promise, Helena Food Share, Friendship Center, Head Start, and YWCA.

Comfort, Healing & Hope: for Kevin, Janet, Sarah, David, Joyce B., Ann grieving the death of her husband, Terry, Charlotte, Jennie, Hannah, Oliver, Peggy.

Those Serving in our Armed Forces: for David Emineth, Shane Medley, Charles Lewis, Kenneth V Liston, and Parker Jones.

CONFESSION

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

God of all mercy, we confess that we have sinned against you opposing your will in our lives. We have denied your goodness in each other, in ourselves, and in the world you have created. We repent of the evil that enslaves us, the evil we have done, and the evil done on our behalf. Forgive, restore, and strengthen us through our Savior Jesus Christ, that we may abide in your love and serve only your will. Amen.

ABSOLUTION

THE PEACE

The Peace of the Lord be always with you.

And also with you.

The Ministers and the people may share with one another a sign of Christ's Peace

THE HOLY COMMUNION

The Offertory sentence

THE OFFERTORY HYMN, H-76

On Jordan's Bank

Tune: Winchester New

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

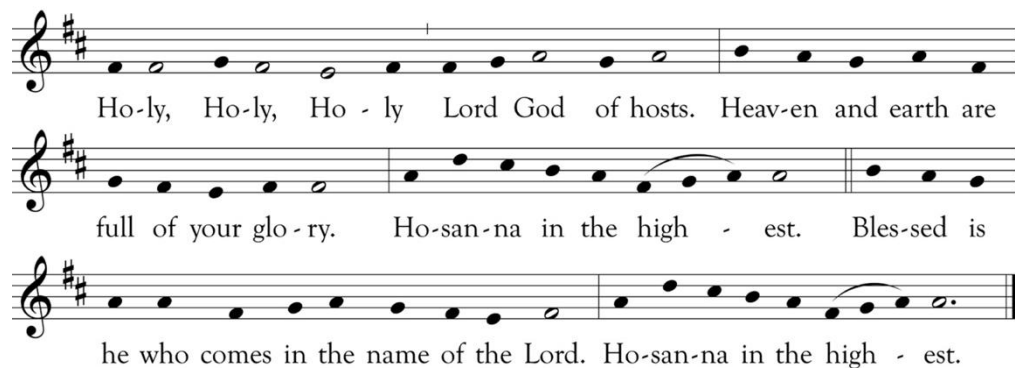
The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

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

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

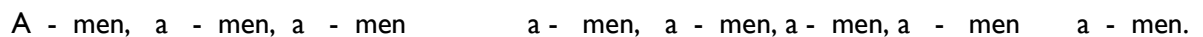


We give thanks to you, O God, for the goodness and love which you have made known to us in creation; in the calling of Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus, your Son. For in these last days you sent him to be Incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Savior and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

**We remember his death,
We proclaim his resurrection,
We await his coming in glory;**

Through Christ, and with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. *(Sung by all)*



Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

8

Choir All

1 Je - sus, wis - dom and might - y Lord: you take a - way the sins ___ of the world,
 2 Je - sus, true branch of Jes - se's tree: you take a - way the sins ___ of the world,
 3 De - sire of na - tions, our Em-man - u - el: you take a - way the sins ___ of the world,

1.2. 3.

Have mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on us. grant us ___ peace, grant us ___ peace.

PRAYER FOR SPIRITUAL COMMUNION on behalf of those participating remotely

Christ welcomes all to communion. ■ Receive the bread in open and outstretched hands and sip the wine, guiding the chalice to your lips. ■ If you do not want to sip the wine, it is also perfectly appropriate to receive the bread only. ■ You may respond to communion by saying "Amen." ■ If you prefer a blessing, cross your hands over your chest. ■ Tell the minister if you require gluten-free elements. ■ In the Episcopal Church Baptism generally precedes communion and is offered several times a year; please speak to a member of the clergy to learn more. ■

ORGAN INTERLUDE

HYMN

O come, O come, Emmanuel

Tune: Veni Emmanuel

1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som
 2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - der'st
 3 O come, thou Branch of Jes - se's tree, free them from

1 cap - tive Is - ra - el that mourns in lone - ly ex - ile
 2 all things might - i - ly; to us the path of know - ledge
 3 Sa - tan's ty - ran - y that trust thy might - y pow - er to

1 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear. Re - joice! Re - joice!
 2 show, and teach us in her ways to go. Re - joice! Re - joice!
 3 save, and give them vic - t'ry o'er the grave. Re - joice! Re - joice!

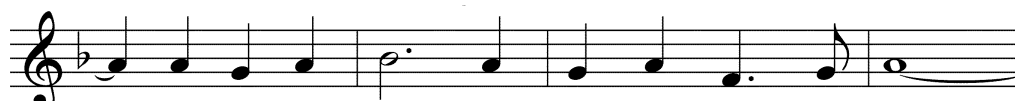
Em - man - u - el shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

BE STILL, MY SOUL

Tune: *Finlandia*



- 1 Be still, my soul! the Lord is by your side; __
2 Be still, my soul! your God does un - der - take __
3 Be still, my soul! the hour is hast'n-ing on __



- 1 bear pa - tient - ly the weight of grief or pain;
2 to hold the fu - ture as he has the past;
3 when we shall be for - ev - er with Our Lord,



- 1 leave to your God to or - der and pro - vide; __
2 your hope, your con - fi - dence, let no - thing shake; __
3 when dis - ap - point - ment, grief, and fear are gone, __



- 1 in ev - ery change God faith - ful will re - main.
2 all now mys - ter - ious shall be bright at last.
3 sor - row for - got, love's pur - est joys re - stored.



- 1 Be still, my soul! your best, your heaven - ly friend; __
2 Be still, my soul! the waves and winds still know __
3 Be still my soul! when pain and tears are past, __



- 1 through storm-tossed waves leads to a peace - ful end.
2 his voice who ruled them while he lived be - low.
3 all peace and bless - ing be re - stored at last.

POST COMMUNION PRAYER

Let us pray.

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you have fed us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of his Body and Blood. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

SENDING FORTH OF EUCHARISTIC MINISTERS

In the name of Christ and this congregation, we send Chris and Robin forth bearing these holy gifts, that Mike and Steve Matross may share with us in the communion of Christ's body and blood. **We who are many are one body, for we all share one bread, one cup.**

THE CHILDREN'S MOMENT

The Very Rev. Kendra Wilde

THE PRAYER FOR BIRTHDAYS

Watch over your children, O Lord, as their days increase; bless and guide them wherever they may be. Strengthen them when they stand; comfort them when discouraged or sorrowful; raise them up if they fall; and in their hearts may your peace which passes understanding abide all the days of their lives; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE PRAYER FOR ANNIVERSARIES

We thank you, O God, for consecrating the marriage of N. and N. in Christ's Name and presence. Lead them in companionship with each other and with you. Give them grace to live together in love and fidelity. Strengthen them all their days, and bring them to that holy table where, with those we love, we will feast for ever in our heavenly home; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

THE DOXOLOGY

Tune: *Old 100th*

**Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him, all creatures here below;
Praise him above, ye heav'nly host
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE BLESSING

HYMN, H-68

Rejoice, rejoice believers!

Tune: *Llangloffan*

THE DISMISSAL

POSTLUDE

Veni, Emmanuel

Robert J. Powell (1932-2025)

<p>NEXT WEEK'S LITURGICAL MINISTERS</p> <p>Organ: John Goodwin Acolyte: Liam Fox Lectors: Sharon Nielsen & Matthew Jaynes Eucharistic Minister (EM): Aubrey Curtis Eucharistic Visitors (EV): Donna Church & Maggie Stockwell Ushers: Gretchen Hibbard & Scott Hibbard</p>	<p>Please note: At the cathedral, photography and video recording may be in process. Entry onto the property signifies your release and consent to the possibility that cathedral staff may use your image for promotional purposes.</p>
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LITURGY NOTE

In the service leaflet, you'll find announcements, birthday and anniversary prayers, and the sung Doxology (Doxology means, "words of praise to God"), in a new position in the liturgy. Why?

Our *Book of Common Prayer's* Eucharistic rite has two portions: "The Word of God" and "The Holy Communion." You'll note that announcements, birthday and anniversary prayers, and the sung Doxology aren't included in the rite. By including the extra prayers and the Doxology *after* the Eucharist itself, we are expressing thanks to God for EVERY blessing we have received—the gifts we have to offer, the birthdays and anniversaries we celebrate, the gift of God's grace extended to us through Holy Eucharist, the fellowship gathered....

Why have we moved announcements to the end of worship? The announcements are a "bridge" between worship and being sent into the world to reengage in events outside of worship. All of the closing rite—the blessing, the doxology, the announcements, and the dismissal—act to draw the liturgy to a close and then send the congregation into mission in the world.

Copyrighted Materials: All rights reserved. Unless otherwise noted, music is reproduced and/or broadcast under OneLicense.net A-727892. Hymn permissions used by Rite Song is a one-time use reprint license for congregational use. † **Opening Hymn:** *Hail to the Lord's anointed*. Words: James Montgomery (1771-1854); para. of Psalm 72. Tune: *Es flog ein kleins Waldvögelein*, German folk song; adapt. and harm. *A Student's Hymnal*, 1928, after Henry Walford Davies (1869-1941). *Hymnal 1982*, © Church Hymnal Corp., 1985. † **Holy God (Trisagion)** Setting: From *New Plainsong*. David Hurd (b. 1950), *Hymnal 1982*, © Church Hymnal Corp., 1985. † **Sequence Hymn:** *Prepare the way, O Zion*. Words: Frans Mikael Franzen (1772-1847); tr. Composite: adapt. Charles P. Price (1920-1999). Tune: *Bereden väg för Herran*, melody from *Then Svenska Psalmboken*, 1697. *Hymnal 1982*, © Church Hymnal Corp., 1985. † **Offertory Hymn:** *On Jordan's bank*. Words: Charles Coffin (1676-1749); tr. Charles Winfred Douglas (1867-1944), after John Chandler (1806-1876); alt. Tune: *Winchester New*, melody from *Musicalishes Hand-Buch*, 1690; harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1889), alt. *Hymnal 1982*, © Church Hymnal Corp., 1985. † **Sanctus and Benedictus:** From *New Plainsong*. David Hurd (b. 1950), *Hymnal 1982*, © Church Hymnal Corp., 1985. † **Fraction Anthem**, from *Missa Emmanuel*, Richard Proulx (1937-2010). † **Communion hymns:** *O come, O come, Emmanuel*. Words: Latin, ca. 9th cent.; ver. *Hymnal 1940*, alt. Tune: *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*, plainsong, Mode I, *Processionale*, 15th cent.; adapt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890). *Hymnal 1982*, © Church Hymnal Corp., 1985. *Be still, my soul*. Words: Kathrina von Schlegel (1697-1777); Translator: Jane Borwick (1813-1897), alt. Music: *Finlandia* Jean Sibelius, (1865-1957). **Closing Hymn:** *Rejoice, rejoice, believers!* Words: Laurentius Laurenti (1660-1722); tr. Sarah B. Findlater (1823-1907), alt. Tune: *Llangloffan*, Melody from *Hymnau a Thonau er Gwasanaeth yr Eglwys yng Nghymru*, 1865. *Hymnal 1982*, © Church Hymnal Corp., 1985. † **Liturgical texts** and the **Psalm**, except as otherwise noted, are from *The Book of Common Prayer* © Church Pension Fund. Reprinted by permission † **Opening Acclamation** (adapt. to including excerpts from Psalm 46) and **Confession**, *Enriching Our Worship*, Vol. 1, Church Publishing, Inc., 1998. † **Eucharistic Visitor Sending**, *Enriching Our Worship*, Vol. 2, Church Publishing, Inc. 2000. † **Anniversary blessing**, *Book of Occasional Services*, Church Publishing, 2022. † **Old Testament, New Testament and Gospel Lessons:** From *The New Revised Standard Version Bible* © 1989, the Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA. Used by permission.
