8:40 a.m.

BOOK OF COMMON PRAYER

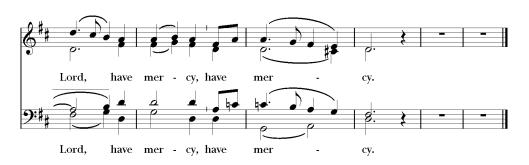
Prelude: Once He Came in Blessing	. by John Leavitt
Processional: Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus	Hymnal # 66
The Opening Acclamation	BCP pg. 355

Celebrant: Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. **People**: And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

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*.

Kyrie





Collect of the Day

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. *Amen*.

The Word of God

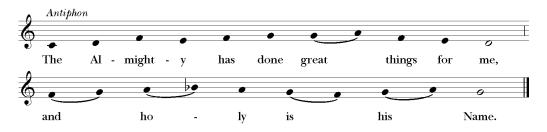
(Please be seated)

First Lesson: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; to provide for those who mourn in Zion-to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory. They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. For I the Lord love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed. I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

The Reader:The Word of the Lord.People:Thanks be to God.

Canticle 15



Soloist: My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord, my spirit rejoices in God my Savior; for he has looked with favor on his lowly servant.

Congregation: From this day all generations will call me blessed: the Almighty has done great things for me, and holy is his Name.

Soloist: He has mercy on those who fear him in every generation.

Congregation: He has shown the strength of his arm, he has scattered the proud in their conceit.

Soloist: He has cast down the mighty from their thrones, and has lifted up the lowly.

Congregation: *He has filled the hungry with good things, and the rich he has sent away empty.*

Soloist: He has come to the help of his servant Israel, for he has remembered his promise of mercy,

Congregation: The promise he made to our fathers, to Abraham and his children for ever.

All: Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever. Amen. Antiphon

Second Lesson: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise the words of prophets, but test everything; hold fast to what is good; abstain from every form of evil. May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

Gradual: Tell Out, My Soul, the Greatness of the Lord......Hymnal # 438 (1,2/3,4)

Celebrant: The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to John: **People:** Glory to you, Lord Christ.

Gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-28

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said, "I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,' " as the prophet Isaiah said. Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.

Celebrant:The Gospel of the Lord.People:Praise to you, Lord Christ.

(Please stand)

The Nicene Creed

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 worshipped 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.

The Prayers of the People

(Please Kneel)

The Leader and People pray responsively

Leader: As a people in darkness waiting for the coming of the light of Christ, let us pray to the Lord,

People: Lord hear our prayer.

Leader: For the Unity of Christ's One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church, let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord hear our prayer.

Leader: For Katharine our presiding bishop, Greg and Nedi our bishops, for priests, deacons and all who minister in Christ, and for all the holy people of God, let us pray to the Lord,

People: Lord hear our prayer.

Leader: For peace, justice and freedom to all; for our armed forces and those who are deployed [especially]; and for the end of terrorism, war and violence throughout the world, let us pray to the Lord,

People: Lord hear our prayer.

Leader: For the poor, the hungry, the oppressed, the unemployed, those in prison, and for the sick and suffering; praying for all those on our prayer list and those in our hearts, especially... and for those we now name..., let us pray to the Lord, **People:** *Lord hear our prayer*.

Leader: For those anticipating the birth of a child, a move, a change in employment or any new beginning; we give thanks for all the blessings of this life, especially for the gift of life itself as we celebrate this week the birthday(s) of ... [and the wedding anniversary(ies) of ...] and for other blessings we now name..., let us pray to the Lord, **People:** *Lord hear our prayer*.

Leader: For those who have died and now abide in Christ's presence, [remembering especially this week ...,] let us pray to the Lord, **People:** *Lord hear our prayer*.

The Confession

Leader: We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

Leader and People:

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.*

The 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

Celebrant:The peace of the Lord be always with you.People:And also with you.

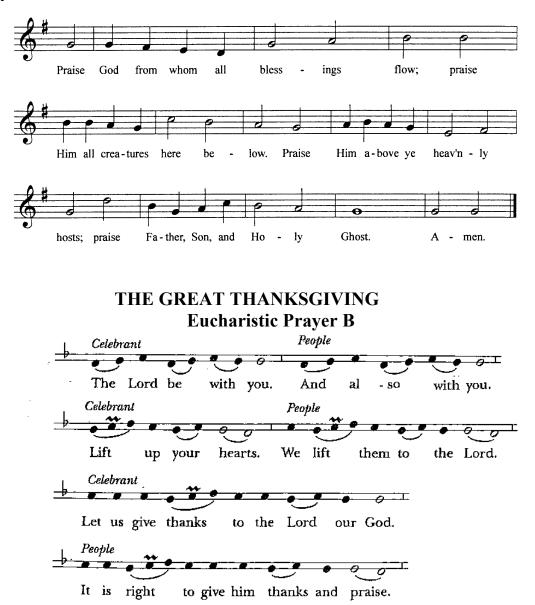
Celebration Prayer

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.

Offertory Anthem: The People Who Walk in Darkness Pepper Choplin

Doxology

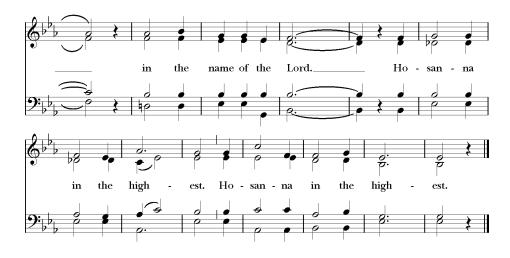


Celebrant: It is right and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth.

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 (Schubert)



Celebrant continues

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.

On the night before he died for us, 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 for the 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 many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, according to his command, O Father,

Celebrant and People

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

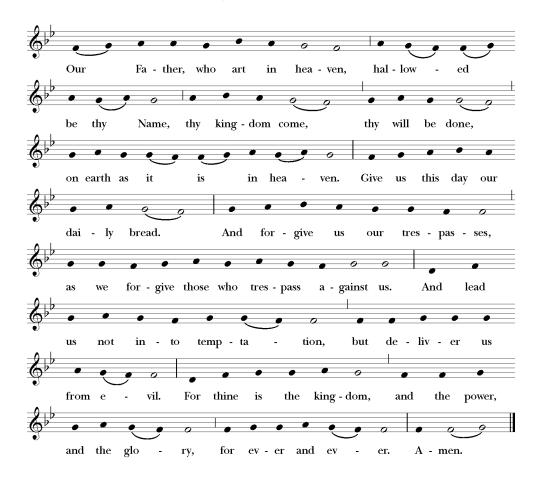
Celebrant continues

And we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, O Lord 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 to your Son in his sacrifice, that we may be acceptable through him, 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 the Blessed Virgin Mary and all your saints, we may enter the everlasting heritage of your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation.

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

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



The Breaking of the Bread

Celebrant:Alleluia. Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;People:Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia.

Agnus Dei



Celebrant: 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.

Invitation to Communion

This is our Lord's Table, and He is our host. All baptized persons are invited to receive Holy Communion. Those who have yet to be baptized are invited to come forward for a blessing and are encouraged to speak with one of the clergy after the service about becoming baptized into Christ's Body. (remain kneeling)

Celebrant: Let us pray.

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. **Amen.**

The Blessing

May the sun of righteousness shine upon you and scatter the darkness from before your path; and the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you, and remain with you always. Amen.

The Dismissal

Celebrant: Let us go forth in the name of Christ. **People:** Thanks be to God.

Recessional Hymn: O Zion, Ha	ste, Thy Mission High Fulfilling	Hymnal # 539

Postlude: From Heaven Above to Earth I Come J. S. Bach

Today's Liturgy

Liturgists

8:40 a.m.

Lay Readers – Lee Artman, Marilyn Cowan LEM's – Judy Bungay, Sam Brown, Jean Kernen, Jean Gray Acolytes – Kathryn Snyder, Katie Howard, Kathryn Dunkelberger Ushers – Rich Stewart, Joe Pelkey, Pat Engle Greeters – Sandi & Sam Insalaco

10:50 a.m.

Lay Readers – Teddy Mitchell, Frank McCracken LEM's – Frank McCracken, Donna P. Snyder, Diane Chick, Teddy Mitchell Acolytes – Nathan Lloyd, Emily & Kayleigh Hunt Ushers – Paul Bocchi Greeters – Mikey Schenk

Altar Candles

The altar candles are given by Bill and Jean Clark in honor of the birthday of their grandson, Andrew.

Altar Flowers

The altar flowers are given by Kerry and Anastasia, Kristy, Kevin, and Debbie, Keith and Sue, her grandchildren and great grandchildren in celebration of the 85th birthday of Jean Kernen. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Adams in loving memory of Michael, on his birthday. Bess Cawthra in loving memory of Jim, on his birthday. Barbara Johnston in thanksgiving for the birthday of her grandson, Jayson Baughan. Mary Lou and Herm Sommer in loving memory of her father, Howard Garrison and his mother, Maria Sommer, on their birthdays. Mr. and Mrs. Frank Adams in thanksgiving for their wedding anniversary. Peter and Marylu Wallerich in loving memory of their mothers, Ellen Ruth Wallerich and Myrtle Oakland; Ray Alburger in thanksgiving of his son Adam's birthday and his 5th wedding anniversary.

Remembrances for the Week

Birthdays

- 17 Charles Hall
- 17 Linda Finkas
- 17 Linda Rutledge
- 17 Tyler Dittman
- 19 Laura Lloyd
- 20 Stan Sherwood
- 20 Jim Doyle

Wedding Anniversaries

- 16 Frank & Nicki Adams
- 18 Bob & Terri Lolcama

Death Anniversaries

- 15 John Aram
- 16 Blanche Hovey
- 19 Barbara Ripley
- 19 Zac Chalmers

Special Announcements

Lessons and Carols tonight at 7:00 p.m.
The youth will be selling tickets for Nets For Life today.
Fr. Haynes installation as Rector of St. Mary's is Sunday, December 21st at 5:00 p.m.

Wise Men needed

If you would be willing to lend us your wise men to use at the January 3rd Epiphany Luncheon, please call Ruth Bartels at 847-7122. We would need them by January 2 and will return them to you on Sunday, January 4.

School News

Dear Parishioners,

In preparation for the New Year, we are offering an <u>expanded version of the 3 Year Old Program</u>. Currently, we offer this program on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday. Beginning in **January**, if the interest is there, we will offer it Monday through Friday. We will offer an afternoon program as well. If you would like to know more about these opportunities, please contact <u>Mrs. Shirley Nelson</u>, the Business Manager @ 253-984-9475.

Enclosed in today's bulletin you will find an <u>auction Donation Form</u> and a tear-away piece which allows you to purchase tickets for the auction being held on Saturday, February 7. Thank you for your support of the auction. Please continue to pray for the successful preparation and participation that we will need to make this a big success!

You are invited to the **Christmas Concert on Tuesday, December 16** *(a)* **6:00** to be held in the Church. The children, under the direction of the Music teacher, Mrs. Barbie Gonzalez, have put in countless hours of preparation and enthusiasm in planning for this performance. The School Board will be hosting a 'cookie reception' in the Narthex following the Concert.

On <u>Wednesday</u>, <u>December 17</u>, in conjunction with the *Wednesday Worship Service*, Father Haynes will officially bring closure to the *Coat Drive* with a special blessing and presentation to the Salvation Army. We will still accept your donations until Wednesday morning by 8:15. Thank you, parishioners for your saintly support of this outreach project.

Additionally, on Wednesday, the children will be singing Christmas carols to the residents at Maple Creek Care Center.

Finally, the school's final day before <u>Christmas vacation will be Friday</u>, <u>December 19</u>. School will resume on Monday, January 5, 2009!

Blessings, Glen Lutz, Principal

Adult Cate-WHAT??

Introducing the Adult Catechumenate! Beginning the first full week of January 2009, our Adult Catechumenate will explore with great depth and lively engagement topics such as Holy Scripture, Salvation History, Church History, the Book of Common Prayer, and much, much more. Whether you are new to the Church or old, seeking Baptism, Confirmation, Reception into the Church or just interested in growing more in your faith, come and enjoy.

Please contact Fr. Haynes: (stmarysrector@gmail.com or 253.588.6621 x207) for more information. Daytime and evening classes are forming!