

Church of the Holy Cross

The First Sunday of Advent



November 30, 2025

10 A.M.

Holy Communion

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Gathering of the People

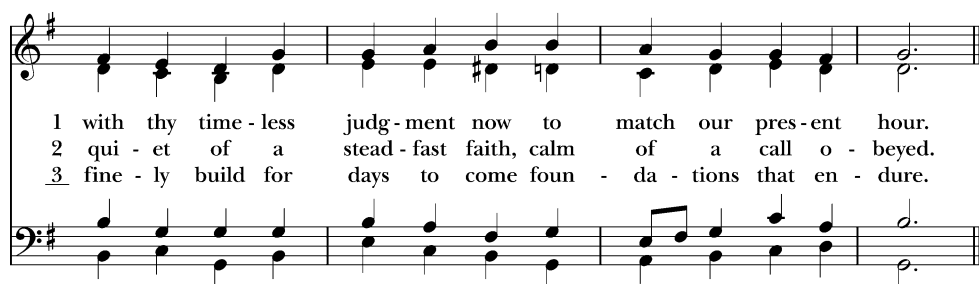
Prelude

Opening Hymn H 601 (v 1-3)

O day of God, draw nigh



1 O day of God, draw nigh in beau - ty and in power, come
2 Bring to our trou - bled minds, un - cer - tain and a - fraid, the
3 Bring jus - tice to our land, that all may dwell se - cure, and



1 with thy time - less judg - ment now to match our pres - ent hour.
2 qui - et of a stead - fast faith, calm of a call o - beyed.
3 fine - ly build for days to come foun - da - tions that en - dure.

Words: Robert Baggie Young Scott (1899-1987). Copyright © Emmanuel College, Toronto. Used by permission. Music: *St. Michael*, Louis Bourgeois (1510?-1561?); harm. William Henry Monk (1823-1899).

The Lighting of the First Advent Candle

Reader For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. – John 3:16-17

The first candle is lit.

Reader In this Advent season of hopeful waiting and preparation,
we light this candle as a symbol of God's Love.
May the Word sent from God show us the way to salvation.

People **O Come, O Come Emmanuel.**

Celebrant Blessed are you, holy and living One.

People **You come to your people and set them free.**

Hymn of Praise

Choir

Advent Candle Blessings

Prayer of the Day

Celebrant God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Celebrant Let us pray.

Almighty God, give us grace to cast away the works of darkness, and put on the armor of light, now in the time of this mortal life in which your Son Jesus Christ came to visit us in great humility; that in the last day, when he shall come again in his glorious majesty to judge both the living and the dead, we may rise to the life immortal; through him who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

Liturgy of the Word

A Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures

Isaiah 2:1-5

Reader A reading from prophet Isaiah.

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

In days to come the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established as the highest of the mountains, and shall be raised above the hills; all the nations shall stream to it. Many peoples shall come and say, 'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the house of the God of Jacob; that he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths.' For out of Zion shall go forth instruction, and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem. He shall judge between the nations, and shall arbitrate for many peoples; they shall beat their swords into ploughshares, and their spears into pruning-hooks; nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war any more. O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

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

People Thanks be to God.

Psalm 122

For Advent we will be chanting the psalms using Anglican psalm tones. In each line, the note changes at the / mark. Listen until you get the idea and then jump in when ready!



© 1978, James Frazier.

- 1 I was glad when they said to / me, *
"Let us go to the house of the / Lord."
- 2 Now our feet are / standing *
within your gates, O Je- / rusalem.
- 3 Jerusalem is built as a / city *
that is at unity with it- / self;
- 4 To which the tribes go up, the tribes of the / Lord, *
the assembly of Israel, to praise the Name of the / Lord.
- 5 For there are the thrones of / judgment, *
the thrones of the house of / David.
- 6 Pray for the peace of Je- / rusalem: *
"May they prosper who / love you.
- 7 Peace be within your / walls *
and quietness within your / towers.
- 8 For my brethren and companions' / sake, *
- 9 Because of the house of the Lord our / God, *

A Reading from the Letters

Romans 13:11-14

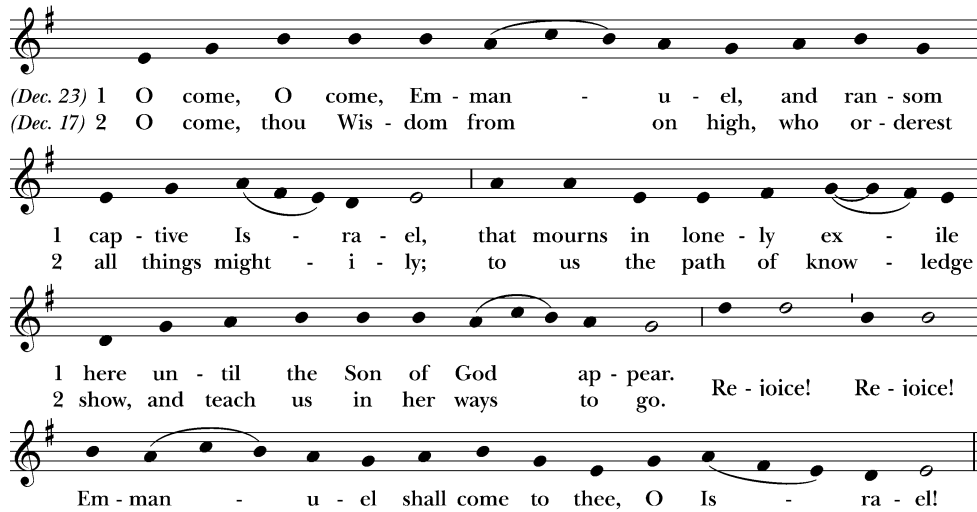
Reader A reading from Paul's letter to the Romans.

You know what time it is, how it is now the moment for you to wake from sleep. For salvation is nearer to us now than when we became believers; the night is far gone, the day is near. Let us then lay aside the works of darkness and put on the armor of light; let us live honorably as in the day, not in reveling and drunkenness, not in debauchery and licentiousness, not in quarreling and jealousy. Instead, put on the Lord Jesus Christ, and make no provision for the flesh, to gratify its desires.

Reader Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people.
People **Thanks be to God.**

Please stand as you are able.

Sequence Hymn H 56 *O come, O come Emmanuel*
Sing v.1 before the Gospel, v.2 after.



(Dec. 23) 1 O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, and ran - som
(Dec. 17) 2 O come, thou Wis - dom from on high, who or - derest

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

1 here un - til the Son of God ap - pear. Re - ioice! Re - ioice!
2 show, and teach us in her ways to go. Re - ioice! Re - ioice!

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

Words: Latin, ca. 9th cent.; ver. *Hymnal* 1940, alt. Copyright © The Church Pension Fund. Music: *Veni, veni, Emmanuel*, plainsong, Mode 1, Processionale, 15th cent.; adapt. Thomas Helmore (1811-1890); acc. Richard Proulx (b. 1937).

Holy Gospel

Matthew 24:36-44

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

Jesus said to the disciples, "But about that day and hour no one knows, neither the angels of heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. For as the days of Noah were, so will be the coming of the Son of Man. For as in those days before the flood they were eating and drinking, marrying and giving in marriage, until the day Noah entered the ark, and they knew nothing until the flood came and swept them all away, so too will be the coming of the Son of Man. Then two will be in the field; one will be taken and one will be left. Two women will be grinding meal together; one will be taken and one will be left. Keep awake therefore, for you do not know on what day your Lord is coming. But understand this: if the owner of the house had known in what part of the night the thief was coming, he would have stayed awake and would not have let his house be broken into. Therefore you also must be ready, for the Son of Man is coming at an unexpected hour."

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

Sermon

Ms. Carol Bennett

Nicene Creed

The people recite this ancient statement of faith together.

**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 only Son 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 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 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 God.
 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 Creator and the Son,
 who with the Creator and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
 and who has spoken through the Prophets.
 We believe in one holy universal 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 (from *Intercessions for the Christian People*)

Reader That our gracious Savior may rouse us from sleep and make us attentive to
 the nearness of his presence, let us pray to the Lord.

People **Lord, open our hearts.**

Reader That we may discover God's word in every sound of this world, God's touch
 in every human embrace, and God's love in every gesture of self-sacrifice
 among us, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, open our ears.**

Reader That divine energy and holy grace may bring our hearts to vigilance and
 make us see with uncovered eyes the Christ who suffers in his people's
 agonies, let us pray to the Lord. **Lord, open our eyes.**

Reader That we may come to recognize in our holy assembly gathered for prayer
 that Jesus the Christ is with us here to make our songs of praise and
 pleading his own, let us pray to the Lord. **Holy God, be present here.**

Reader That God's coming into the days and years of our human history may be
 always new, always brimming with light to drive all darkness away, let us
 pray to the Lord. **Come, Lord Jesus, come.**

Prayers may be offered silently or aloud or typed in the Zoom chat.

Celebrant Make ready our hearts for your coming, O Lord, and receive our prayers in
 the name of the one who comes, our gracious Savior, Jesus, the Christ.
 Amen.

Confession of Sin (EOW 1)

Deacon The Lord comes, bringing to light things now hidden in darkness, and
 disclosing the purposes of the heart. Let us open our hearts and prepare for
 his coming, confessing our sins in penitence and faith.

Silence is kept.

People

**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.**

Celebrant

May God forgive you, Christ befriend you, and the Spirit renew and change your life. **Amen.**

Peace

Celebrant

The peace of the Lord be always with you.

People

And also with you.

We offer one another a wish of peace before coming to the Communion table together.

Liturgy of the Table

Offertory Sentence

Offertory Music H 68

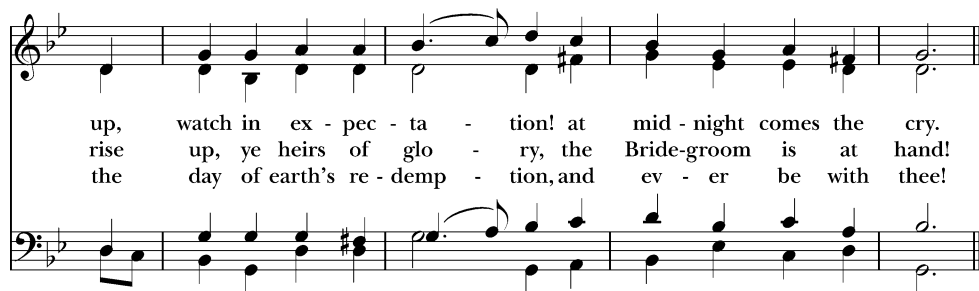
Rejoice! Rejoice believers

The hymn is played while the Deacon sets the table.

1 Re - joice! re - joice, be - liev - ers, and let your lights ap - pear!
2 See that your lamps are burn - ing, re - ple-nish them with oil;
3 Our hope and ex - pec - ta - tion, O Je - sus, now ap - pear;

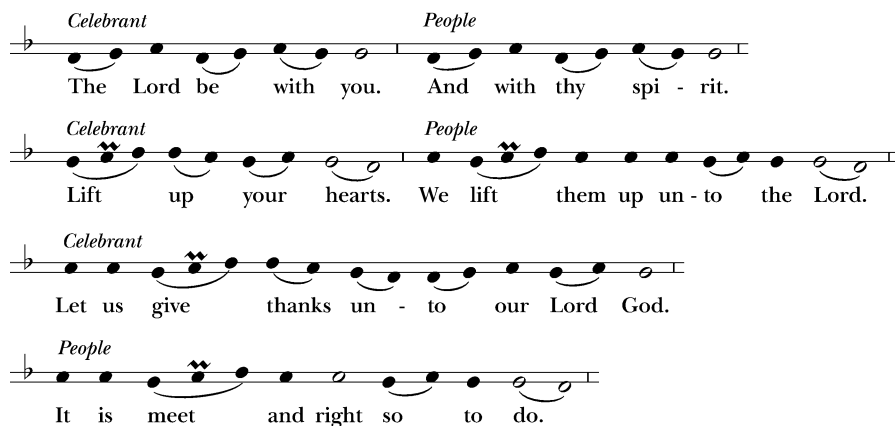
The eve - ning is ad - vanc - ing, and dark - er night is near.
look now for your sal - va - tion, the end of sin and toil.
a - rise, thou Sun so longed for, a - bove this dark-ened sphere!

The Bride-groom is a - ris - ing, and soon he will draw nigh;
The mar - riage - feast is wait - ing, the gates wide o - pen stand;
With hearts and hands up - lift - ed, we plead, O Lord, to see



up, watch in ex - pec - ta - tion! at mid - night comes the cry.
 rise up, ye heirs of glo - ry, the Bride-groom is at hand!
 the day of earth's re - demp - tion, and ev - er be with thee!

Communion Prayer (EOW Prayer 1)

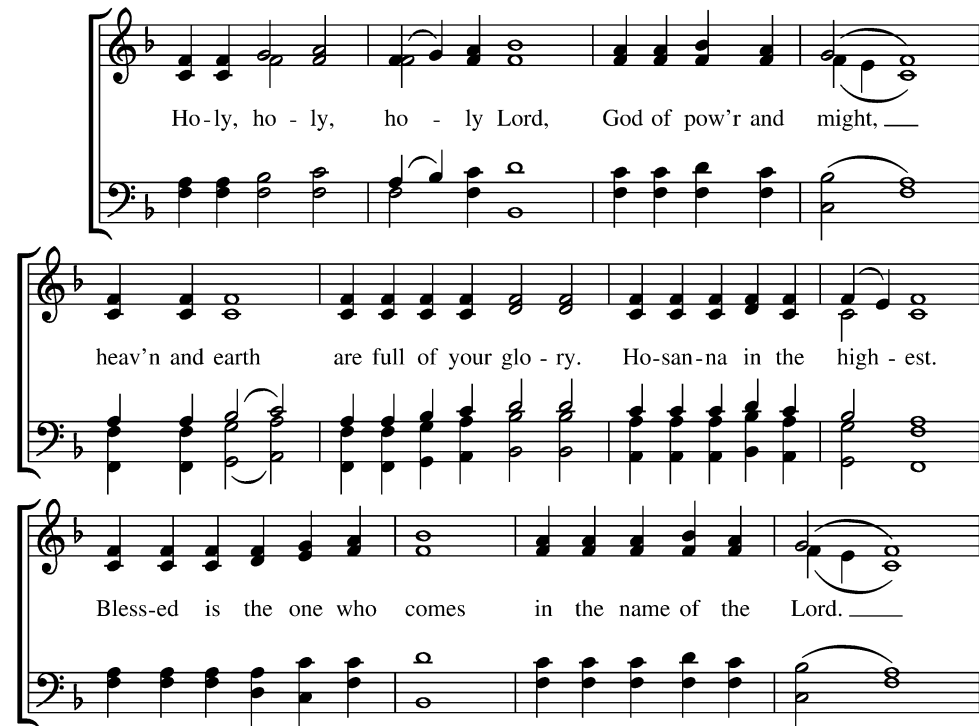


Celebrant The Lord be with you. *People* And with thy spi - rit.
Celebrant Lift up your hearts. *People* We lift them up un - to the Lord.
Celebrant Let us give thanks un - to our Lord God.
People It is meet and right so to do.

Setting: Copyright © Church Publishing Inc.

It is truly right, and good and joyful, to give you thanks, all-holy God, source of life and fountain of mercy. You have filled us and all creation with your blessing and fed us with your constant love; you have redeemed us in Jesus Christ and knit us into one body. Through your Spirit you replenish us and call us to fullness of life. Therefore, joining with Angels and Archangels and with the faithful of every generation, we lift our voices with all creation as we sing:

Sanctus EOM1 56 *Holy, holy, holy*



Ho-ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might, —
 heav'n and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho-san-na in the high - est.
 Bless-ed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. —



Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of the universe and giver of life.
 You formed us in your own image and called us to dwell in your infinite love.
 You gave the world into our care that we might be your faithful stewards
 and show forth your bountiful grace.

But we failed to honor your image in one another and in ourselves; we would not see your
 goodness in the world around us; and so we violated your creation, abused one another,
 and rejected your love. Yet you never ceased to care for us, and prepared the way of
 salvation for all people.

Through Abraham, Sarah, and Hagar you called us into covenant with you.
 You delivered us from slavery, sustained us in the wilderness,
 and raised up prophets to renew your promise of salvation.

Then, in the fullness of time, you sent your eternal Word, made mortal flesh in Jesus.
 Born into the human family, and dwelling among us, he revealed your glory.
 Giving himself freely to death on the cross, he triumphed over evil,
 opening the way of freedom and 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 friends, and said, "Take, eat.
 This is my Body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, 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 poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever
 you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

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

Remembering his death and resurrection, we now present to you from your creation
 this bread and this wine. By your Holy Spirit may they be for us
 the Body and Blood of our Savior Jesus Christ.

Grant that we who share these gifts may be filled with the Holy Spirit
 and live as Christ's Body in the world. Bring us into the everlasting heritage
 of your children, that with all your saints, past, present, and yet to come,
 we may praise your Name for ever.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
 to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever.



Lord's Prayer

Celebrant

As our Sa - vior Christ has taught us, we now pray,

Celebrant and People

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.

Music: Ambrosian chant; adapt. Mason Martens (1933-1991). Copyright © 1971 Mason Martens.

Breaking of Bread

The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread.

Celebrant Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us.

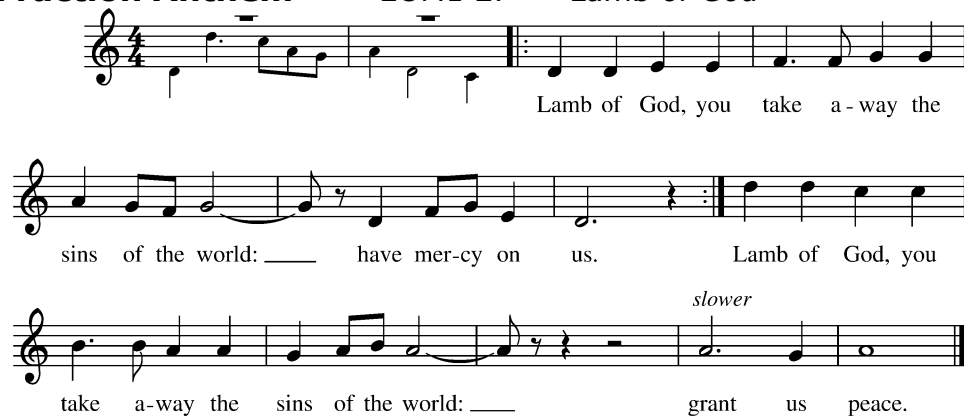
***People* Therefore let us keep the feast.**

Celebrant The Gifts of God for the People of God. Holy Gifts for Holy People.

Fraction Anthem

EOM1 27

Lamb of God



Lamb of God, you take a - way the

sins of the world: ____ have mer - cy on us. Lamb of God, you

take a - way the sins of the world: ____ grant us peace.

Setting: Peter Crisafulli, from *Music for the Holy Eucharist Rite II*, © 2002 Peter Crisafulli.
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Communion of the People

No one who comes to the bread and wine seeking Christ is turned away. The words of distribution are:

The Body of Christ, the Bread of Heaven. Amen.

The Blood of Christ, the Cup of Salvation. Amen.

Communion Music MHSO 61 *Prepare the way of the Lord*

Canon

1 2 3 4

Pre - pare the way of the Lord. Pre - pare the way of the Lord, and
all peo - ple will see the sal - va - tion of our God.____

Words: based on *Luke 3:4, 6*, adapt. The Taizé Community.

Music: Jacques Berthier (1923-1994) © 1984 by Les Presses de Taizé (France). (Words and Music admin. GIA Publications, Inc., 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638 [www.giamusic.com].) All rights reserved. Used by permission.

Announcements & Blessings of Life Events

Post Communion Prayer

Celebrant

Let us pray.

People

**Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image
and nourishing us with spiritual food
in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood.
Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed;
that we may proclaim your love to the world
and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.**

Blessing

Celebrant

May the blessing of the God of Abraham, Sarah and Hagar,
and of Jesus Christ born of our sister Mary, and of the Holy Spirit,
who broods over the world as a mother over her children,
be upon you and remain with you always. **Amen.**

Sending Hymn LEVAS 210 *Down by the riverside*

1. Goin' to lay down my sword and shield,
2. Goin' to lay down my war shoes,
3. Goin' to put on my long white robe,
4. Goin' to meet my lov - ing sav - ior,

Down by the riv - er - side, Down by the riv - er - side,

Down by the riv - er - side. 1. Goin' to lay down my sword and shield,
2. Goin' to lay down my war shoes,
3. Goin' to put on my long white robe,
4. Goin' to meet my lov - ing sav - ior,

Down by the riv - er - side, To stud - y war — no

I ain't goin't
more. — stud - y war no more, Ain't goin't

stud - y war no more, Ain't goin't stud - y — war no

I ain't goin't
more, — stud - y war no more, Ain't goin't

stud - y war no more, —

stud - y war no more, Ain't goin't stud - y war no — more. —

Words: Traditional. Music: Negro Spiritual; arr. Clarence White. Arr. Copyright © 1940 Carl Fischer, Inc. New York. Copyright renewed. Reprinted by permission. International Copyright Secured. All Rights Reserved.

Going into the World

Celebrant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
People Thanks be to God.

Postlude

*This brings the worship to a close.
All are invited for Coffee Hour in the Parish Hall following the service.*

Ministers of Today's Service

Readers: Lexi; Flynn; Iva
Prayer: Faith & Killian
Greeters: Killian & Lexi
Ushers & Elements: Faith; Flynn & Killian
Cross Bearer: Cat
Counters: Pam Hinkle &

Altar Guild

Joanne Quinlan, Carole Abshier, Gael Grossman,
Anne Hamilton, Katherine Housman, Cathi Peterson

Sunday School Teachers

Teri Landreth, Renee Brennan, Pimam Manzi,
Ashlie Price

Clergy

Bishop of Michigan: The Rt. Rev. Bonnie Perry
Rector: The Rev. Ian Reed Twiss
Deacon: The Rev. Dcn. Cleda Smartt

Staff

Administrator: Teri Landreth
Music Director: Kate Autry
Sexton: Katie Forbing

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Setting: *Missa Oecumenica*, from the *Trinitatis Choral Review*, arr. Richard Proulx,
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EOM1 56

Words: Laurentius Laurenti (1660-1722); tr. Sarah B. Findlater (1823-1907), alt. Music: *Llangloffan*, melody from *Hymnau a*

H68 *Thonau er Gwasanaeth yr Eghwys yng Nghymru*, 1865.