

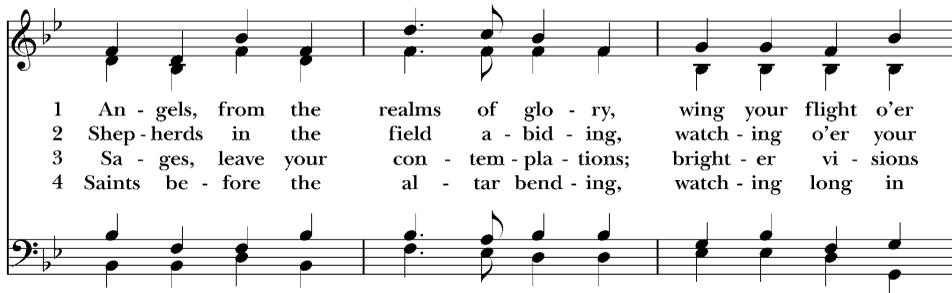
PRELUDE

From Sonata 2

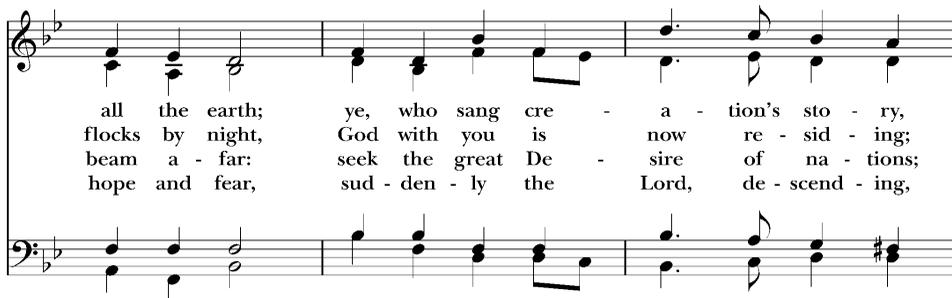
Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

OPENING HYMN #93

ANGELS FROM THE REALMS OF GLORY



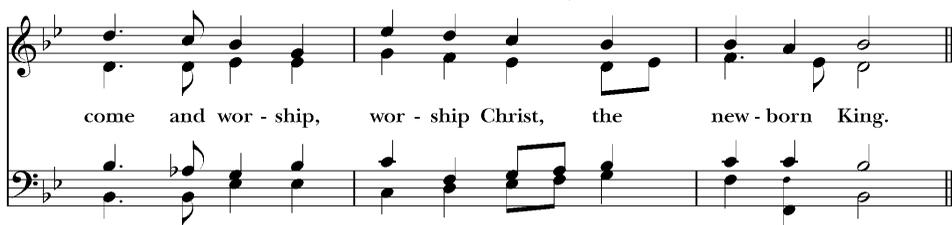
1 An - gels, from the realms of glo - ry, wing your flight o'er
2 Shep - herds in the field a - bid - ing, watch - ing o'er your
3 Sa - ges, leave your con - tem - pla - tions; bright - er vi - sions
4 Saints be - fore the al - tar bend - ing, watch - ing long in



all the earth; ye, who sang cre - a - tion's sto - ry,
flocks by night, God with you is now re - sid - ing;
beam a - far: seek the great De - sire of na - tions;
hope and fear, sud - den - ly the Lord, de - scend - ing,



Refrain
now pro - claim Mes - si - ah's birth:
yon - der shines the in - fant Light: come and wor - ship,
ye have seen his na - tal star:
in his tem - ple shall ap - pear:



come and wor - ship, wor - ship Christ, the new - born King.

Officiant From the rising of the sun to its setting my Name shall be great among the nations, and in every place incense shall be offered to my Name, and a pure offering; for my Name shall be great among the nations, says the Lord of hosts. *Malachi 1:11*

The Music Director introduces the liturgy informally.

THE INVITATORY AND PSALTER

Officiant Lord, open our lips.

People **And our mouth shall proclaim your praise.**

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. Alleluia.**

JUBILATE (PSALM 100)

CHRISTOPHER WALKER

Cry out with joy to the Lord, all the earth;
serve the Lord with gladness,
come before him, singing for joy.
Know that he, the Lord, is God;
he made us, we belong to him;
we are his people, the sheep of his flock.
Go within his gates giving thanks
and to his courts with songs of praise;
give thanks to him, and bless his name.
Indeed, how good is the Lord,
eternal his merciful love;
he is faithful from age to age.

PSALM 84

How dear to me is your dwelling, O God of hosts! *

**My soul has a desire and longing for your courts;
my heart and my flesh rejoice in the living God.**

**The sparrow has found her a house
and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young, *
by the side of your altars, O God of hosts, my Ruler and my God.**

**Happy are they who dwell in your house; *
they will always be praising you.**

Happy are the people whose strength is in you; *
whose hearts are set on the pilgrims' way.

Those who go through the desolate valley will find it a place of springs,*
for the early rains have covered it with pools of water.

They will climb from height to height; *
the God of gods will be revealed in Zion.

O God of hosts, hear my prayer; *
hearken, O God of Jacob.

Behold our defender, O God, *
and look upon the face of your Anointed,

For one day in your courts is better than a thousand in my own room, *
and to stand at the threshold of the house of my God
than to dwell in the tents of the wicked;

For God is both sun and shield *
and will give grace and glory.

No good thing will God withhold *
from those who walk with integrity.

O God of hosts, *
happy are they who put their trust in you!

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.

THE LESSONS

FIRST READING

MALACHI 3:1-4

Thus says the Lord, See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight-- indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears?

For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

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

1 O Zi - on, tune thy voice, and raise thy hands on
 2 He gilds thy morn - ing face with beams that can - not
 3 In hon - or to his Name re - flect that sa - cred
 4 There on his ho - ly hill a bright - er sun shall

high; tell all the earth thy joys, and boast sal -
 fade; his all - re - splen - dent grace he pours a -
 light; and loud that grace pro - claim, which makes thy
 rise, and with his ra - dianc e fill those fair - er

va - tion nigh. Cheer - ful in God, a -
 round thy head; the na - tions round thy
 dark - ness bright; pur - sue his praise, till
 pur - er skies; while round his throne ten

rise and shine, while rays di - vine stream all a - broad.
 form shall view, with lus - ter new di - vine - ly crowned.
 sov - ereign love in worlds a - bove the glo - ry raise.
 thou - sand stars in no - bler spheres his in - fluence own.

Words: Philip Doddridge (1702-1751); based on *The Third Song of Isaiah*
 Music: *Eastview*, J. V. Lee (1892-1959)

66. 66 88

When the time came for their purification according to the law of Moses, the parents of Jesus brought him up to Jerusalem to present him to the Lord (as it is written in the law of the Lord, “Every firstborn male shall be designated as holy to the Lord”), and they offered a sacrifice according to what is stated in the law of the Lord, “a pair of turtledoves or two young pigeons.”

Now there was a man in Jerusalem whose name was Simeon; this man was righteous and devout, looking forward to the consolation of Israel, and the Holy Spirit rested on him. It had been revealed to him by the Holy Spirit that he would not see death before he had seen the Lord’s Messiah. Guided by the Spirit, Simeon came into the temple; and when the parents brought in the child Jesus, to do for him what was customary under the law, Simeon took him in his arms and praised God, saying,

“Master, now you are dismissing your servant in peace, according to your word; for my eyes have seen your salvation, which you have prepared in the presence of all peoples, a light for revelation to the Gentiles and for glory to your people Israel.”

And the child’s father and mother were amazed at what was being said about him. Then Simeon blessed them and said to his mother Mary, “This child is destined for the falling and the rising of many in Israel, and to be a sign that will be opposed so that the inner thoughts of many will be revealed-- and a sword will pierce your own soul too.”

There was also a prophet, Anna the daughter of Phanuel, of the tribe of Asher. She was of a great age, having lived with her husband seven years after her marriage, then as a widow to the age of eighty-four. She never left the temple but worshiped there with fasting and prayer night and day. At that moment she came, and began to praise God and to speak about the child to all who were looking for the redemption of Jerusalem.

When they had finished everything required by the law of the Lord, they returned to Galilee, to their own town of Nazareth. The child grew and became strong, filled with wisdom; and the favor of God was upon him.

Reader The Word of the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

Lord, now lettest thou thy servant depart in peace, *
according to thy word;

For mine eyes have seen thy salvation, *
which thou hast prepared before the face of all people,

To be a light to lighten the Gentiles, *
and to be the glory of thy people Israel.

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, *
and to the Holy Ghost:

As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, *
world without end. Amen.

SERMON

THE REV. BOB KOSSLER

THE APOSTLES' CREED

The people say together

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting. Amen.**

THE PRAYERS

Officiant The Lord be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant Let us pray.

Officiant and People

**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.**

V. Show us your mercy, O Lord;

R. **And grant us your salvation.**

V. Clothe your ministers with righteousness;

R. **Let your people sing with joy.**

V. Give peace, O Lord, in all the world;

R. **For only in you can we live in safety.**

V. Lord, keep this nation under your care;

R. **And guide us in the way of justice and truth.**

V. Let your way be known upon earth;

R. **Your saving health among all nations.**

V. Let not the needy, O Lord, be forgotten;

R. **Nor the hope of the poor be taken away.**

V. Create in us clean hearts, O God;

R. **And sustain us with your Holy Spirit.**

COLLECTS

Almighty and everliving God, we humbly pray that, as your only-begotten Son was this day presented in the temple, so we may be presented to you with pure and clean hearts by Jesus Christ our Lord; who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

O God, the King eternal, whose light divides the day from the night and turns the shadow of death into the morning: Drive far from us all wrong desires, incline our hearts to keep your law, and guide our feet into the way of peace; that, having done your will with cheerfulness during the day, we may, when night comes, rejoice to give you thanks; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Heavenly Father, in you we live and move and have our being: We humbly pray you so to guide and govern us by your Holy Spirit, that in all the cares and occupations of our life we may not forget you, but may remember that we are ever walking in your sight; through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND BLESSINGS

A 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.**

A Prayer for Anniversaries

O God, you have so consecrated the covenant of marriage that in it is represented the spiritual unity between Christ and his Church: Send therefore your blessing upon these your servants, that they may so love, honor, and cherish each other in faithfulness and patience, in wisdom and true godliness, that their home may be a haven of blessing and peace; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

ANTHEM

Jesus! Name of wonderful love!

Robert Powell (b. 1923)

Jesus! Name of wondrous love!
Name all other names above,
unto which must every knee
bow in deep humility.

Jesus! Name of priceless worth
to the fallen sons of earth,
for the promise that it gave,
Jesus shall His people save.

Jesus! Name of wondrous love,
human name of God above;
pleading only this, we flee,
helpless, O our God, to Thee.

William Walsham How (1823-1897)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Preacher Let us pray to the God of compassion who heals the broken and binds up their wounds.

Leader For the church throughout the world and for all who proclaim the message of God's healing love. We pray especially for our annual meeting today.

People **God, hear our prayer.**

Leader For the leaders of the world and for all who promote human dignity.

People **God, hear our prayer.**

Leader For Black artists, writers, thinkers, and leaders who have changed the world with their gifts but who have yet to be recognized in our teaching of history.

People **God, hear our prayer.**

Leader For the sick in body, mind, or spirit and for all who assist them with hands of healing. We pray especially for Mary Lee Hatfield, Chris Jensen, Stan Maupin, Helaina Titus. . .

People **God, hear our prayer.**

Leader For those burdened by anxious days and sleepless nights.

People **God, hear our prayer.**

Leader For those whose labor is hard and whose wages are inadequate.

People **God, hear our prayer.**

Leader For those who have passed through suffering and death and for the dawn of eternal life in God's presence.

People **God, hear our prayer.**

A PRAYER OF ST. CHRYSOSTOM

Officiant and People

Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will be in the midst of them: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. Amen.

CONCLUDING VERSICLE

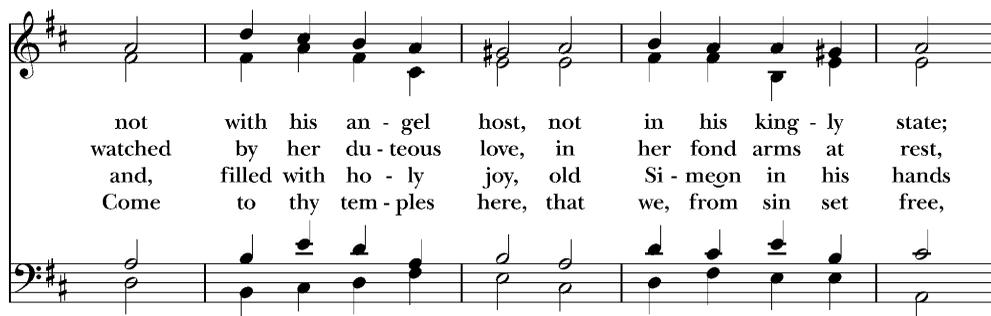
Officiant Let us bless the Lord.

People **Thanks be to God.**

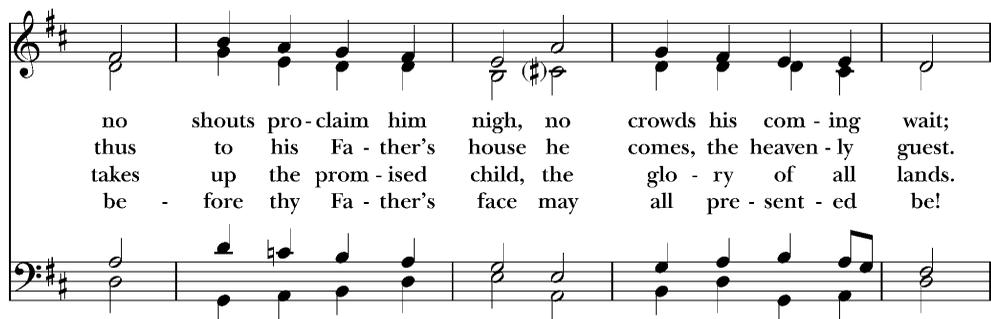
May the God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing through the power of the Holy Spirit. **Amen.** *Romans 15:13*



1 Hail to the Lord who comes, comes to his tem - ple gate;
 2 but, borne up - on the throne of Ma - ry's gen - tle breast,
 3 There Jo - seph at her side in rev - erent won - der stands;
 4 O Light of all the earth, thy chil - dren wait for thee!



not with his an - gel host, not in his king - ly state;
 watched by her du - teous love, in her fond arms at rest,
 and, filled with ho - ly joy, old Si - meon in his hands
 Come to thy tem - ples here, that we, from sin set free,



no shouts pro - claim him nigh, no crowds his com - ing wait;
 thus to his Fa - ther's house he comes, the heaven - ly guest.
 takes up the prom - ised child, the glo - ry of all lands.
 be - fore thy Fa - ther's face may all pre - sent - ed be!

POSTLUDE

From Sonata 2

Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Director of Music: Matthew Burt

Music Leaders: Transfiguration Choir, Joshua Hughes & Erin Renfroe

Zoom Host: Michael Hutchinson, Anne Gearhart (back-up)

Video Production: Brian Leckey

Morning Prayer

Officiant: Mees Tielens

Responses: Gari Patton

Apostle's Creed: Aidan Jobe Sea

First Reading: Cathy Apsley

Psalm: Leonora Sea

Second Reading: Michele Charles

Preacher: The Rev. Bob Kossler

Prayers of the People: Claudia Dierkes-Banks and Sundance Banks